

## Sudan assembly meets this week

KHARTOUM (AP) — Sudan's ruling generals on Saturday ordered the newly elected constituent assembly to meet in a week's time to restore civilian rule to Sudan after 17 years under the military. "The transitional military council has issued a decree calling the assembly to convene its first session of 1986 on the 26th of April in accordance with Article 67 of Sudan's transitional constitution," the official Sudan News Agency said. Next Saturday will be the first anniversary of the swearing-in of Prime Minister Al Gazouly Dafallaah and his provisional cabinet, whose principal mandate from the ruling council was to organise elections in early April in preparation for the April 26 convening date.

# Jordan Times

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## Non-aligned team to visit Libya, U.N.

NEW DELHI (AP) — A team of delegates from non-aligned countries will visit Tripoli and the United Nations to express opposition to last week's U.S. attacks on Libya, officials said Saturday. At the U.N. Security Council members have postponed a conclusion of a debate on Libya until Monday to await the arrival of the delegation. The team is due to leave Sunday night from New Delhi, where foreign ministers of the 101-member Non-Aligned Movement Saturday were working on the political and economic declarations of their four-day conference. The team will be headed by Indian Foreign Minister Bali R. Bhagat. Names of the other team members were not immediately announced. India is the chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement. Conference sources said the delegation will criticise the air raids and express solidarity with Libya.

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## Islamic conference opens on Wednesday

AMMAN (J.T.) — The fifth annual conference of the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (Al al-Bait Foundation) will begin here on Wednesday. Taking part in the five-day conference, which will be inaugurated under royal patronage, will be scholars from Arab and Muslim countries. His Majesty King Hussein is expected to open the conference.

## Delegation back from IPU meeting

AMMAN (J.T.) — Mr. Bahjat Talhouni, Senate member and head of the Jordanian parliamentary delegation to the 75th meeting of the International Parliamentary Union (IPU), which was held in Mexico City, and delegation member Wafiq Salah returned to Amman on Saturday. They were received by the Ministry of Interior under secretary and the acting secretary general of parliament.

## Italy sets date for Achille Lauro trial

GENOA (R) — Palestinian leader Mohammad Abbas (Abu Abbas) and 13 other men accused of involvement in the hijacking of the Italian cruise liner Achille Lauro last year will be tried in June, a court said Saturday. The Genoa assize court said the trial will be held in Genoa, starting on June 18. Abu Abbas, leader of the Palestinian Liberation Front (PLF), is charged with directing the hijacking.

## New Maronite patriarch elected

BEIRUT (AP) — White smoke billowed from a three-day secret conclave north of Beirut on Saturday, signalling the election of a new patriarch for Lebanon's strongest Christian community. A spokesman at the hilltop Maronite patriarchate, where the 19-bishop conclave was held since Thursday, said the new head of 2.5 million Maronites in Lebanon and the rest of the world was Bishop Nasrallah Sfar.

## Turkish Cypriots accept U.N. plan

NICOSIA (AP) — The government of the breakaway Turkish Cypriot state has decided to accept the latest proposal by U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar for the reunification of this divided island, high-level officials reported Saturday. The officials said the Turkish Cypriot acceptance would be relayed to Mr. Perez de Cuellar next week, possibly Monday.

## Cairo seeks to extend emergency

CAIRO (R) — The government asked parliament on Saturday to extend for 24 months a state of emergency imposed in Egypt after extremists gunned down President Anwar Sadat in 1981. Prime Minister Ali Lutfi told the assembly "the extension of the emergency law is the only alternative in view of recent circumstances in our country and in the region."

# 10,000 people stage vehement anti-U.S. protest in London

Protesters denounce Reagan and Thatcher

Combined agency despatches

LONDON — About 10,000 people staged a sit-down protest outside the U.S. embassy in London on Saturday, denouncing U.S. President Ronald Reagan and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher as terrorists.

The crowd cheered as an American flag was burned. The peaceful demonstration was one of several across Britain organised by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) to protest the U.S. bombing raid on Libya and the use of British-based U.S. warplanes in the operation. In Scotland, police said 11 protesters were arrested outside the Royal Navy nuclear submarine base at Faslane on the River Clyde. They were charged with vandalism for allegedly cutting the perimeter fence and later released.

Across the street from the U.S. embassy, the normally tranquil and elegant Grosvenor Square was jammed with protesters, some chanting "Thatcher, Reagan, CIA, how many kids have you killed today?" and others holding banners proclaiming "Reagan —

the world's worst terrorist," and "U.S. bases out."

"We simply wish to register massive public disgust at the bombing of Libya," said Monsignor Bruce Kent, vice-chairman of the CND. "It's no way to solve the world's problems by state terrorism."

Scotland Yard estimated the crowd outside the embassy at 10,000 people. Hundreds of letters protesting the air strike and demanding the closure of U.S. bases in Britain were collected at the demonstration and will be sent to the White House, a CND spokesman said.

Diane Ryken of San Francisco was among several dozen people standing by a sign in Grosvenor Square that said "embarrassed Americans gather here."

She said: "I'm here today because I totally oppose the U.S. action that has happened in Libya. And I felt it was very important to be seen as an American who opposed that."

Demonstrations were also being held outside the U.S. air force bases at Lakenheath in eastern England and Upper Heyford northwest of London.

American F-111 bombers from the two bases flew to bomb Libya early Tuesday with the consent of Prime Minister Thatcher.

Founded in 1958, CND claims 300,000 members and associates and many more supporters. It said the demonstrations were taking place under the slogan "U.S. bases out of Britain."

CND wants all nuclear arms removed from Britain and all U.S. bases closed.

Opinion polls show a majority of Britons oppose the U.S. raid on Libya and Mrs. Thatcher's support for it.

British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe on Friday accused Libya of direct involvement in the kidnapping and murder of two Britons in Lebanon, saying their deaths were another example of "Libyan state-directed terrorism."

British officials refused to say

(Continued on page 3)

## U.S. embassy receives AUB librarian's body

Britons prepare to leave Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — U.S. embassy officials were handed the body on Saturday of American hostage Peter Kilburn, found shot dead in mountains east of here, as Britons in west Beirut made plans to leave.

Kilburn, one of six Americans missing in Lebanon, and two kidnapped British teachers were apparently killed in revenge for Tuesday's U.S. air raid on Libya in which British-based bombers took part. Their bodies were found two days ago.

A 60-year-old librarian at the American University of Beirut (AUB), Kilburn was kidnapped in December 1984. His abduction was claimed at the Islamic Jihad (holy war) group.

An AUB student said about 10 U.S. and British teachers at the university had locked themselves in their apartments after slogans of "Death to America, death to Britain" scribbled in Arabic were found on blackboards in classrooms.

"They will not open doors even to talk to students," she said.

The British embassy was in contact with about 50 Britons in west Beirut awaiting word of a possible evacuation. A U.S. diplomat said there were no plans at this stage to evacuate the handful of Americans remaining in the western sector of the city.

The Lebanese Red Cross said snipers observed a midnight ceasefire to allow the transport of Kilburn's body to east Beirut, where U.S. embassy officials identified him.

The guns fell silent as the hearse carrying Kilburn's body crossed the dividing green line, escorted by carloads of Red Cross workers. Red Cross spokesmen said at least two U.S. embassy officials were waiting at Hotel Dieu hospital in east Beirut when the corpse arrived there.

An embassy official told the Voice of Lebanon radio station the embassy was "reasonably sure" the body was that of Kilburn and it would be sent to his next of kin in the United States.

(Continued on page 3)

## Italy to respond militarily to any new Libyan attack

ROME (AP) — Italian Premier Bettino Craxi hinted on Saturday that Italy would respond militarily in case of a new Libyan attack on its territory. But said he was not considering economic retaliation in response to the shooting of two missiles at an Italian island this week.

Mr. Craxi also reported Italy was about to decide measures to cut Libya's diplomatic staff in Rome.

Following the U.S. bombing raids on Libya early Tuesday, two Soviet-built Scud missiles were launched towards the remote Italian island of Lampedusa from the Libyan coast. The missiles were apparently aimed at a U.S. coast guard station on the Mediterranean island, midway between Sicily and Libya, but fell harmlessly in the sea.

Italy issued a stiff diplomatic protest to Libya but announced no other measures.

However, Mr. Craxi told a news conference that "we have given clear directives to the armed forces... what do you think we would do next time? Send a note of protest? This would not be the opinion of the majority of Italians."

"We urge the government of Tripoli to use caution, reflection

and responsibility," the Socialist premier added.

"The Tripoli government must abandon its threats of war and military action," he added.

He appealed to the Soviet Union "which has had close relations with Libya... to press" and defuse the tension.

"We need a sort of general ceasefire, otherwise there will be a tremendously dangerous situation."

About 4,000 Italians remain in Libya, Mr. Craxi said, noting that the figure had been halved in the past few weeks. He added that the government was arranging to repatriate those who wished to leave.

Asked whether Italy intended to take "economic reprisals" against Libya, Mr. Craxi said "commercial and economic relations would enter into crisis. I don't see why (economic considerations) should enter into this worsening situation."

He noted that Italy was co-owner of oil wells with the Libyan government. He also ruled out any seizing of Libyan shares in the Fiat automobile company. The Libyan Arab Foreign Investment Bank owns 15 per cent of Fiat worth an estimated \$340 million.

## Security beefed up at Heathrow

LONDON (Agencies) — Security at London's Heathrow Airport was tightened further on Saturday following an attempt on Thursday to plant a bomb aboard an Israeli airliner, the British Airports Authority (BAA) said.

A BAA spokesman said it had increased the number of body searches carried out on passengers and their baggage as they pass through electronic scanning equipment and passport control.

Police said less than five kilograms of plastic explosives were found in the false bottom of a bag carried by a woman about to board an El Al flight from Heathrow to Tel Aviv.

On Friday they arrested a 35-year-old Arab, identified as Nezar Hindawi, in connection with the bombing attempt. He was being questioned on Saturday.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has warned Britons to be alert to guerrilla attacks, after Libyan threats of retaliation for British backing of this week's U.S. bombing of Libya.

3 forged passports found aboard TWA plane

In another aviation-related incident on Saturday a security official at Cairo airport said three forged Bahraini passports found aboard a New York-bound TWA Boeing 747 prompted extra security checks and a prolonged stopover when the plane transited Cairo.

The official at Cairo airport told AP the passports were found in one of the plane's lavatories during the Kuwait-Cairo leg of the flight that began in Bombay, India.

"Three Bahraini passports were found in a lavatory after the plane left Kuwait for Cairo," the official said. "The passports were clearly forged, and photos had been removed from them. They did not belong to any of the passengers on board."

The official said thorough identity checks and a search of all passengers, luggage and the plane itself were made at Cairo airport but "nothing suspicious was found."

The security checks delayed by four hours the plane's departure for New York.

The Middle East News Agency (MENA) said the plane carried 255 passengers when it arrived, 25 of whom disembarked in Cairo. It said 101 passengers boarded in Cairo for the trip to New York.



REGENT RECEIVES BRITISH DELEGATION: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Saturday receives a high-level British delegation headed by Lord Jellicoe, chairman of the British Overseas trade Board (see story on page 3).

level British delegation headed by Lord Jellicoe, chairman of the British Overseas trade Board (see story on page 3).

## Libyans return to work for first time after U.S. raids

TRIPOLI (Agencies) — Several hundred foreigners left by normal commercial flights on Saturday and many Libyans returned to work for the first time since the U.S. air raid on Tuesday.

At least one foreign airline, West Germany's Lufthansa, added a special flight, but diplomats said no extraordinary measures had been taken to evacuate foreign residents.

Most scheduled commercial flights were operating for the first time since the raid shut Tripoli airports.

Most shops were open and streets were fuller than at any time since the raid, in which Libya said 27 people were killed and 93 were wounded.

Residents were seen taking paint off car headlights, applied to dim lights as a precaution against further raids. They said many people who left after the raid had returned to resume work.

A Tripoli Radio commentary dismissed foreign news reports of unrest and said foreign residents were in no danger.

"Affairs in the Jamahiriya are completely normal. The U.S. aggression has only led to more commitment and cohesion within the Jamahiriya and more rallying of the masses around its historic leadership," it said.

Some British residents had feared reprisals after their prime minister, Margaret Thatcher, allowed U.S. F-111 bombers to use British bases for the raid and after two Britons were known to have been killed in Lebanon.

Major Abdul Salam Jalloud, number two to Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, told a news conference on Friday the Lebanon killings were unfortunate.

He said it was a spontaneous, individual action but added: "What do you expect from the Arab and Muslim masses when

they hear of American-British aggression against an Arab Muslim city?"

Airline sources said most of the foreigners who flew out on Saturday were women and children of expatriate workers, leaving more to relax than escape potential danger.

Tripoli experienced daily rounds of heavy anti-aircraft fire for three days after the raid.

Libya said there had been several fresh incursions by U.S. planes into Libyan air space, both for reconnaissance and bombing runs.

Greece stops Libyan minister's press conference; Tunisia silent over U.S. raid; two arrested in Turkey on suspicion of anti-U.S. sabotage plot, page 2

U.S. believes Libya raids won't affect ties with Arabs; Words, not war, mark Arab reaction to U.S. attack, page 4

## Oteiba: OPEC accord unlikely in Geneva

GENEVA (AP) — A key Arab oil minister said on Saturday that OPEC's talks, which began Tuesday, were so bogged down that the oil ministers met only briefly Thursday and Friday.

A Saturday morning session was cancelled to give the group's technical experts more time to work on proposals for an OPEC production ceiling. The ministers said as they arrived for an afternoon session they would review the proposals, which were designed to push up oil prices by bringing supplies closer to line with demand.

Libyan Oil Minister Fawzi Shukri said he doubted the conference could finish its work before Sunday and that he could not predict the outcome.

The semi-official Abu Dhabi newspaper Al Itihad reported on Saturday that Algeria's oil minister, Belkacem Nabl, had said he

below \$10, industry analysts say. OPEC's talks, which began Tuesday, were so bogged down that the oil ministers met only briefly Thursday and Friday.

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The semi-official Abu Dhabi newspaper Al Itihad reported on Saturday that Algeria's oil minister, Belkacem Nabl, had said he

saw no possibility of a compromise in Geneva.

The newspaper quoted Mr. Nabl as saying: "The present conference will end in failure like the previous one and like any coming conference."

Renner adds: Three Gulf oil states attending the OPEC meeting have refused to take part in the discussions, a sign that they want to keep oil prices low and punish non-OPEC producers, OPEC sources said.

The oil ministers of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Mr. Oteiba have sat silently at the talks, they said. They account for more than a third of the OPEC output.

The three Gulf states want non-OPEC countries, particularly Britain and Norway, to join the effort to cut world supplies to boost prices.

## Bhutto demands general elections by this autumn

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistani opposition leader Benazir Bhutto said on Saturday she wanted new elections by this autumn to replace the national assembly elected last year under martial law.

Miss Bhutto, who has drawn hundreds of thousands of supporters to her rallies for new polls, said she was sure there would be an election and General Mohammad Zia Ul Haq would resign this year.

President Zia and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo have both rejected her calls for immediate polls open to all parties before the next elections scheduled for 1990. Parties were banned from the 1985 general elections.

"Zia will go. There will be elections," Miss Bhutto, whose slogan at mass rallies since return from exile on April 10 has been "Zia must go, Zia must go," told newsmen here.

Asked whether she meant this year, she replied: "It is inconceivable for me to wait even until 1987."

"When I say immediate elections, I mean this fall," she said.

Miss Bhutto, 32, daughter and political heir of executed former prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, said her Pakistan People's Party (PPP) was debating whether to step up the pace of her anti-Zia

campaign in the next few weeks. Miss Bhutto plans to continue touring the country addressing mass rallies until about May 10, the start of the holy month of Ramadan that slows down all public activity here.

Miss Bhutto would not say what the PPP would do if the government continued to ignore her call for fresh polls but stressed she wanted the change she says is inevitable to come peacefully.

The government's cooperation in allowing her to hold six mass rallies so far was not a sign of strength, she argued. "The information we have is that they're in full panic," she said.

"Our rallies have hit all the nerve centres we wanted to hit. They will go on hitting those nerve centres," she added.

The official view was that her "caravan for change" would run out of steam, she said, adding: "We are not the types to be exhausted. We have gathered momentum from city to city."

Although she rejected last year's controlled elections as invalid, she said its products — Mr. Junejo and the national assembly — could play an historic role in transferring power. "I'm not trying to cut anyone out," she said.

She declined to say whether Gen. Zia would be able to stay in Pakistan if she came to power.

## Chances seen dim for special Arab summit

TUNIS (AP) — Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi continued his consultations with Arab leaders on Saturday, but it appeared increasingly unlikely that the special Arab summit sought by Libya would be held anytime soon, Arab sources said.

Following the American air attacks on Tripoli and Benghazi early Tuesday, Libya asked for a special meeting of Arab heads of state to discuss the situation.

League sources said Mr. Klibi was continuing his "intensive consultations" with Arab foreign ministers and heads of state in an effort to overcome a number of obstacles to the meeting and was looking for a compromise on the question of the agenda.

Other diplomatic sources said there appeared to be two opposing camps. One involved countries led by Saudi Arabia which wants the summit to take up all aggression against the Arabs, including the Iran-Iraq war, the other including Libya and Syria, who want to include only "the American aggression against Libya."

To these problems were added a few others, among which were Syria's refusal to attend a summit that also would include Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat.

The sources also said some countries were "dragging their feet" so as not to be forced to throw their support behind Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, and others who do not want to deal with a "hor" problem immediately and be forced to make an explicit condemnation of the United States.

League sources did not attempt to hide the fact that there were serious problems and indicated that while a summit remained a possibility, it seemed very unlikely in the present diplomatic climate.

Renner adds from Kuwait: Kuwait reiterated on Saturday its readiness to attend an Arab summit sought by Libya, but said its agenda should include all developments in the Arab World.

We are for a summit once its venue and date are agreed. But we feel all developments in the Arab World should be examined," Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah said.

Diplomatic sources said the minister was apparently referring to Kuwait's desire to include the Iran-Iraq war in the discussions — an issue which has previously delayed the convening of a meeting of Arab leaders.

## U.N. envoy says Afghan talks are in decisive stage

NEW DELHI (AP) — Afghanistan and Pakistan have accepted a new draft proposal on the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan as the basis for discussion at next month's "decisive" talks in Geneva, a United Nations mediator said Saturday.

"I believe we have produced a good basis for discussion, one that has included the position of both sides, that is balanced and which could lead to an effective settlement," U.N. Under-secretary General Diego Cordovez told reporters.

Mr. Cordovez presented his draft proposal on Friday in separate meetings with Afghan Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost and Pakistan Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan.

The ministers are in New Delhi for a conference of the Non-Aligned Movement.

"They have accepted it as a basis for discussion," Mr. Cordovez said. "That is quite an advance. They could have thrown it back at me."

Mr. Cordovez declined to give any details of the document, which deals with the linkage between withdrawal of Soviet forces within an agreed time frame and non-interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs.

An estimated 118,000 Soviet troops are helping the Afghan government battle a nationwide insurgency by guerrillas supported by Pakistan, the United States, China and other countries.

The Pakistan foreign minister told reporters in New Delhi on Thursday that any peace settlement should compel the Soviets to withdraw their forces "in a few months."

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## Heart recipient doing very well 3 days after operation

By Sa'ad G. Hattar  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Arab World's third heart transplant patient Sunday was reported to be in a "remarkably good condition" three days after the operation which was performed by a team of Jordanian doctors at Al Hussein Medical Centre, according to the centre's chief cardiologist Yusef Qusous.

Mr. Ahmad Abu Shakra, the 23-year-old heart recipient, is "in remarkably good condition compared with the primary stages of the first Jordanian heart transplant patient eight months ago," Brigadier Qusous told the Jordan Times Sunday.

Brig. Qusous, however, said that it is still too early to decide the day of his discharge from hospital and added that "all the patient's physiological parameters are within normal limits, which indicates that the operation can be regarded as 100 per cent successful."

Wednesday's heart transplant operation was performed by the same cardiac surgeons who performed the first such surgery last August, and was headed by director of the Royal Medical Ser-

vices Da'oud Hanania. The second heart transplant operation in the Arab World was performed in Saudi Arabia last February.

The heart was taken from a 15-year-old Jordanian, Khader Jazza's Hijazeen, who was declared brain dead by a team of three specialists. The heart donor, who suffered an acute cerebral haemorrhage due to congenital malformation in the brain, was admitted to the medical centre Tuesday in an unconscious state.

The heart recipient was suffering from congestive cardiomyopathy, a heart muscle disease for which there is no medical treatment other than being kept on drugs. Mr. Abu Shakra, an agricultural engineer, was a class four cardiac patient who became breathless at the slightest movement due to heart failure.

In his statement to the Jordan Times, Dr. Qusous said the first Jordanian heart recipient Abdullah Mohammad Khalil, 23, has recovered and is now working at the medical centre as a clerk. His medical condition is so encouraging and he only needs a medical checkup once a month, Dr. Qusous said.

## Lebanese president honours late consul in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel has bestowed the Medal of Knighthood upon the late Mr. Hussein Ahmad Shamas, the Lebanese consul in Amman who died in hospital Friday from a brain hemorrhage.

Mr. Shamas, 38, was taken to the Khalidi Hospital on Friday April 11 after suffering the first attack. He underwent an electrocardiogram test which indicated his heart was in a normal condition although he had high blood pressure.

On Wednesday, he was taken to the King Hussein Medical Centre for further tests. On Thursday Mr. Shamas fell into a coma and was put on a life-support system until he died on Friday.

Mr. Shamas, who took up his post at the Lebanese Embassy in Amman in 1982, is survived by his wife, and two children; a boy and a girl.

He was decorated by his president in recognition of his services within the diplomatic corps.

## Ministry, USAID hold course for agricultural workers

AMMAN (Petra) — An 11-day training course for agricultural extension workers in Jordan began Saturday with the participation of 75 agricultural extension workers. The course is organized by the Ministry of Agriculture in cooperation with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

In an address at the start of the course, the ministry's under secretary, Dr. Saleh Al Lawzi, said that the government's interest in agriculture, research and exten-

sion is clearly reflected by decisions taken by the Higher Agricultural Council and the cabinet which provide for setting up a guiding committee with extensive powers to implement projects. Dr. Lawzi said that since the establishment of the ministry, it has paid great attention to agriculture and farmers and has introduced technology to develop and promote agriculture in Jordan.

The ministry, he continued, has also attached care to agricultural research and to the promotion of agricultural extension.

## Consulting office for women suggests amendments to Arab civil status law

By Sana Atiyeh  
Special to the Jordan Times

### Custody of Children

AMMAN — A woman's rights as a wife, mother, or divorcee, is one of the topics under discussion in an amendment to a unified Arab civil status draft law. Miss Rihab Qadumi, an active lawyer and a legal consultant for the Business and Professional Women's Club Consulting Office for Women, says that the civil status law is being amended in order to keep up with modern developments and problems. She told the Jordan Times that Arab justice ministers decided to unify the law in all Arab countries during a conference held in Rabat, Morocco, in 1970.

Miss Qadumi explains some women's rights under the present Jordanian civil status law and Islamic Sharia's concerning desertion and divorce. She says: "There is a common misconception that a woman cannot divorce her husband. There are several reasons given in Sharia law where a woman can seek for divorce: If the husband is sexually impotent or has psychological disorders, if he deserts her and disappears for at least one year, if he does not support her financially (even if she works), if he is sentenced or imprisoned for three years, if he disappears in wars or natural disasters for four years or if he commits adultery are all valid reasons for a woman to divorce her husband if she can prove her case."

Miss Qadumi went on to say that the most common cases she receives at the consulting office deal with divorce for marital conflicts. "If a woman can prove that her husband hurt her physically or even verbally, she is entitled to divorce him. Plus, she is entitled to the second dowry (money given to wife by the husband in case of divorce) and which is written in the marriage contract, money to support her children, money for her shelter, and, if she is pregnant, he must pay for all the medical care she needs," she continued.

There are many cases, however, where a man may decide to divorce his wife for no apparent reason. In such cases, the wife is entitled to the above mentioned financial rights, plus he must pay her money to support herself (as if they are still married) for one complete year, according to Miss Qadumi.

As for custody of the children, the mother keeps them from the time of infancy to the age of fourteen, unless she does not want them. The child of fourteen can then choose with which parent he wants to live. The father must financially support his children, despite who has custody, for a boy until he finishes his education and works and for girls until they marry, according to Miss Qadumi. "Actually, a woman does have many rights under Islamic Sharia," she adds.

However, there are certain amendments, according to Miss Qadumi, that should be considered. The committee of the Business and Professional Women's Club has submitted suggestions for amendments to the committee of the civil status draft law. This was up for discussion at the Arab ministers of justice conference held in Casablanca, Morocco, between April 14-18.

### Suggested amendments

Miss Qadumi spoke about some of the propositions given to the Jordanian civil status draft law committee. She says: "We suggest that for marriage, a man must be less than 20 years older than the woman and that medical examinations must be performed to prove lack of serious illnesses or diseases in both the man and the woman."

Concerning working wives, Miss Qadumi says they should not necessarily have permission from their husbands to work. "There are cases where husbands disappear and desert their wives and they are left with no money to support themselves or the children. In such circumstances, we suggest a charity box for such women to be put up in the courts or anywhere else. But when the husband is traced, he must pay back the funds. Concerning a man who divorces his wife for no valid reason, instead of him supporting her for only one year as is the present law, the time should be increased to five years," she said.

Some of the proposed amendments were suggested by Miss Qadumi in view of personal cases on which she has worked. She suggests: "If the husband is addicted to alcohol, drugs, or gambling, the



DRUG HAUL SEIZED: A 450-kilogramme haul of hashish, which was recently intercepted by the Jordanian Anti-Narcotics Bureau.

Petra photo

## Jordan to mark Arab week for deaf children

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will celebrate a special week for deaf children in the Arab World on Sunday with events to be held in all hearing impaired centres in the country. The celebrations and other activities aim to strengthen ties between the handicapped and their communities and to increase public awareness about this problem and its dimensions.

Director of Special Education at the Ministry of Labour and Social Development Ismail Abdul Qader said that special programmes have been drawn up for celebrating this occasion. These programmes include field visits to centres for the hearing impaired and organising trips for the deaf.

The number of handicapped benefiting from care and rehabilitation programmes in Jordan is 700 people, divided among five centres three of which are government run and two are private.

Mr. Abdul Qader said. He added that hearing impaired people are receiving special education and training in the fields of sewing, embroidery, leather industries and flower arranging.

Mr. Abdul Qader went on to say that the Ministry of Social Development is planning to prepare a simplified and standard programme for the prequalification of the handicapped in cooperation with the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund and the University of Jordan.

## Haj Hassan delivers King's message to emir of Bahrain

MANAMA (Petra) — The emir of Bahrain, Sheikh Issa Ibn Salman Al Khalifa, has received a verbal message, dealing with bilateral relations, from His Majesty King Hussein.

Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan, who conveyed the royal message to the Bahraini leader during an audience on Saturday, said that he and the emir reviewed current Arab and international issues, particularly those of interest to the Arab nation. Mr. Haj Hassan also expressed Jordan's appreciation to Bahrain for the care it directs to Jordanians working in Bahrain.

The audience was attended on the Bahraini side by the ministers of foreign affairs, interior, labour and social development and by Jordan's ambassador in Manama on the Jordanian side.

Mr. Haj Hassan also met with Bahraini Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Sheikh Khalifa Ibn Salman Ibn Mohammad Al Khalifa and the two reviewed bilateral relations and means of developing

and strengthening these ties, particularly in the fields of labour and labour-related affairs.

Mr. Haj Hassan and his Bahraini counterpart also discussed the exchange of expertise between the two countries, particularly in fields related to vocational training.

### Talks with expatriates

During his stay in Bahrain, Mr. Haj Hassan will meet with representatives of the Jordanian community in Bahrain and will brief them on the steps taken to implement the recommendations and decisions of the First Jordanian Expatriates' conference, which was held in Amman last year. The minister will also listen to proposals and suggestions for topics to be included on the agenda of the Second Jordanian Expatriates' Conference, due to be held in Amman on July 14, 1986.

Mr. Haj Hassan arrived in Manama on Friday for a three-day official visit as part of his tour of Gulf Cooperation Council states.

## Committee reviews plans for Arab children's conference

AMMAN (Petra) — The preparatory committee for the Arab children's conference Saturday set Aug. 14 as the date for convening the conference in which Arab children aged between 11-13 years will take part.

Saturday's meeting was chaired by Mrs. Ina'am Al Mufti, special advisor to Her Majesty Queen Noor, and director general of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation.

During the meeting, Mrs. Mufti and committee members reviewed the objectives of this gathering of Arab children and the activities to be organised for them during their stay in Amman. The conference is part of the joint Arab culture programme. Mrs. Mufti also reviewed the responsibilities and duties of the various authorities concerned with the Arab culture programme and means of financing this programme.

She also discussed the formation of an executive committee which will be in charge of the preparations for the conference in addition to information, financial and administrative committees.

It was also decided that the preparatory committee will hold another meeting on April 26.

Taking part in Saturday's meeting were representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Information, Culture, Tourism and Antiquities, Youth, Interior, Social Development as well as Jordan Radio and Television Corporation, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, the Friends of Children Club, the Haya Arts Centre, the General Union of Voluntary Societies.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Cabinet okays study on transport

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has approved plans to conduct a preliminary study on transport in Jordan and has allocated JD 2,000 as a government contribution towards covering the costs of the study.

### Hamzeh visits Tafleeh hospital

TAFILEH (Petra) — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh Saturday stressed his ministry's interest in providing the best health services to all members of the public through health centres, clinics and hospitals set up by the ministry. Dr. Hamzeh was speaking Saturday during a visit to Tafleeh hospital where he inspected the emergency and ambulance section which has recently been established at the hospital. The hospital includes 36 beds and is staffed by 14 specialist doctors, six general practitioners and 126 other employees.

### Jordan to attend talks on Arab satellite

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has formed a Jordanian delegation to attend the meetings of the general assembly of the Arab Satellite Corporation which will be held in Algeria on April 28. Minister of Communications Muhieddine Al Hussein will head the Jordanian delegation to the two-day meetings.

### Delegation to participate in EBU meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali has agreed that a delegation from the Jordan Radio and Television Corporation may take part in the meetings of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) engineering committee. The eight-day meeting will start in Switzerland on April 26.

### French week starts at Mu'ta

KARAK (Petra) — Mu'ta University President Ali Mahafzah Saturday opened a French cultural week at the university's campus. The week is organised by the university in cooperation with the French Cultural Centre in Amman. During the week there will be displays of paintings by French artists and documentaries on cultural and scientific subjects.

## Regent receives delegation of senior British businessmen

Lord Jellicoe, trade team hold talks on bilateral, commercial ties with Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday received Lord Jellicoe, chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board (BOTB) and a delegation of senior British businessmen who are currently on a visit to Jordan. During the meeting Prince Hassan and the delegation reviewed bilateral relations in commercial fields.

The audience was attended by Minister of Supply, Industry and Trade Rajal Muasher and Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib, the governor of the Central Bank of Jordan, the secretary general of the Planning Ministry and the British ambassador to Jordan.

Also Saturday, Dr. Muasher met with the delegation and briefed them on Jordan's development and progress in the economic and social fields. He also discussed the Kingdom's high growth rates and outlined the reasons behind Jordan's economic prosperity. Dr. Muasher said that political, economic and legislative stability has contributed to this economic prosperity.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the economic and commercial relations between Jordan and Britain and means of developing them. The meeting was attended by the directors of industry at the ministry and directors of the potash and phosphates companies and the British ambassador to Jordan.

Minister of Planning Abdullah Al Nsour also received the delegation and reviewed the general features of the Jordanian economy and also briefed them on the five-year development plan for

1986-1990 which, he said, concentrates on the least developed areas of the Kingdom.

Dr. Nsour said that the Jordanian government looks forward to Britain's contribution towards the implementation of the plan's projects and he stressed the importance of establishing joint ventures.

The British delegation is in Jordan for a four-day visit during which they will meet with senior Jordanian officials, representatives of the British business community and with the Jordan-British Society. Mission members will also meet the president of the Jordan Valley Authority, the chairman of the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company and the governor of the Central Bank of Jordan.

Mission members are keen to discuss opportunities for British business in Jordan and they will also be discussing specific areas of new export opportunities such as technology transfer and training, according to a press release issued by the British embassy in Amman.

The British Overseas Trade Board guides and directs the export promotion services of the Department of Trade and Industry. The services provide a wide range of assistance to existing and

potential exporters in both manufacturing and service industries. Lord Jellicoe is chairman of the Board and the Duke of Kent is vice-chairman. Members of the board are mainly businessmen with practical knowledge of exporting. The headquarters of the board is in London and there are ten regional offices throughout the United Kingdom. The press release said.

Lord Jellicoe was born in 1918 and was educated at Winchester and Trinity College, Cambridge. Following a career in the British Army he entered the Foreign Service and served as First Secretary in Washington, Brussels and Baghdad. In 1951 Lord Jellicoe joined the Ministry of Housing and Local Government as joint parliamentary secretary and in 1962 he was appointed Minister of State at the Home Office. During the next years Lord Jellicoe served as First Lord of the Admiralty, Minister of Defence for the Royal Navy, deputy leader of the opposition in the House of Lords, Lord Privy Seal and minister in charge of the Civil Service Department. From 1970-73 Lord Jellicoe was leader in the House of Lords. Lord Jellicoe holds directorships of four major industrial companies and is chancellor of Southampton University and Chairman of the Medical Research Council and of the Council of King's College, London. Lord Jellicoe was president of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry and has been a member of the British Overseas Trade Board since 1982. He was appointed chairman in April 1983, the release added.

## Drug squad seizes hashish worth JD1m

AMMAN (Petra) — The Narcotics and Forgery Control Department has seized 450 kilograms of hashish, worth JD 1.5 million, the director of the department, Colonel Hashem Al Kaissi, said Saturday.

Col. Kaissi said the hashish had been hidden in a refrigerated truck loaded with border. The vehicle crossed the frontier with its cargo and after unloading the fruit the members of the gang drove the truck to a depot on the outskirts of Amman where they stored contraband narcotics.

Drug squad teams watched the car closely and when the gang began to unload the drugs, they moved in and arrested the smugglers. After conducting investigations, it was found that members of the gang were some of the most wanted narcotics smugglers in the Middle East region. No date for the arrest was given.

### Second haul

Col. Kaissi went on to say that intensive inspection campaigns carried out by the narcotics control department earlier resulted in

### Penalties for traffickers

In reply to a question about sentences for drug traffickers and whether they are deterrent or not, Col. Kaissi said that a special

committee has been formed to study the law in relation to drug trafficking with a view to amending the law to include the death sentence for some cases of smuggling. He added that the draft amendments is currently under discussion.

Strict penalties do contribute towards curbing such illegal trafficking, as well as to international and regional cooperation in combating narcotics, Col. Kaissi said and he pointed out that the United Nations is currently preparing a new international convention for combating the illegal trafficking of narcotics.

Col. Kaissi said available statistics show that 90 per cent of trafficking cases in Jordan show that the drugs were in transit to neighbouring countries, while only six per cent of narcotics are smuggled for the local market. In other words, he said, the ratio of Jordanians dealing with narcotics is no more than three per 10,000 of the population.

He also said that there are plans to establish a specialised centre for treating drug addicts under the supervision of the Ministry of Health.

## 10,000 stage anti-U.S. protest in London

(Continued from page 1)

whether the government believes they were murdered by Libyans. Mr. Howe's disclosure of a Libyan connection came as the opposition renewed its attack on Mrs. Thatcher, accusing her of putting innocent victims in the front line against "terrorism."

Two-thirds of Britons polled in public opinion surveys have called Britain's involvement in the U.S. raids a mistake.

The London Daily Telegraph reported Saturday that President Ronald Reagan telephoned Mrs. Thatcher shortly after completion of the U.S. raid against Libya to thank her for her support.

A Thatcher official, on Saturday accused Col. Qadhafi of helping to arm and train the Irish Republican Army (IRA) and called his soldiers the "terrorist partners" of guerrillas fighting British rule in Northern Ireland.

"The great curse of the IRA has been fed and nurtured by, among others over the years, the civil regime that is Qadhafi's Libya," Northern Ireland Secretary Tom King said in a statement.

Referring to the Libyan leader, Mr. King said: "His oil money, his army, his training camps, all have played their part. Just how big the total sum has been, we may never know."

Mrs. Thatcher said Saturday she agonised over her decision to let Mr. Reagan use U.S. bases in Britain as a springboard for his raid on Libya.

"Yes, we did agonise and, yes, we did ask whether all the targets were connected with terrorism," she said in a speech to her local Conservative Party in north London.

Mrs. Thatcher said: "It would have been easier to run away, but

we did not — and we would take the same decision again."

It was the first time in living memory that the U.S. air bases in Britain were used for an operation outside Europe.

The former prime ministers, fellow Conservative Edward Heath and former Labour leader James Callaghan, told Mrs. Thatcher bluntly in the House of Commons they would have turned Mr. Reagan down.

In Sheffield, the annual conference of Britain's National Union of Journalists voted by a large majority on Friday to send a telegram to Col. Qadhafi condemning the U.S. bombing.

The conference condemned the U.S. raids and the use of British-based planes as "a threat to world peace and a criminal and evil act." It called for the removal of all U.S. bases from Britain.

## U.S. embassy receives body of slain hostage

(Continued from page 1)

The bodies of British teachers Philip Padfield, 40, and Leigh Douglas, 34, who disappeared after leaving a west Beirut nightclub on March 28, were identified by British embassy officials on Friday.

A note found near the three corpses and signed by a group calling itself the Arab Commando Cells, said they had been killed in reprisal for the U.S. attack on Libya "with the direct support of the British government."

Anonymous callers said on Friday two other British kidnap victims, television reporter John McCarthy, 29, and journalist Alec Collett, 64, had been killed, but no bodies were found.

Collett was kidnapped in March

1985 while on an assignment for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency. Mr. McCarthy, acting bureau chief for Worldwide Television News, was seized on his way to Beirut airport two days ago.

Other foreigners missing in Lebanon include nine French nationals, an Irishman, an Italian and a South Korean.

In Washington, U.S. Vice-President George Bush said Washington would strike again at "terrorist bases" despite the killing of Kilburn.

Relatives of hostage Kilburn blamed the U.S. air strike on Libya for his death.

In California, his niece Patty Little, said: "We had no idea (President) Reagan was going to do

that raid and once I saw it actually happen I knew that we were in trouble."

A nephew, Tim Kilburn, said he blamed the abductors. "I also blame the U.S. government and I blame the American people for allowing the government to do some of the things it has been doing."

Relatives of four American hostages believed to be still alive in Lebanon expressed fear they would also suffer as a result of the raid.

Mr. Bush, asked in a television interview what the U.S. reaction would be to further American deaths, replied: "I'm absolutely convinced that if we get the smoking gun (evidence) again, they're going to pay the price again."



# Jordan Times

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## Sunday's Economic Pulse

### The 5-year-plan projects huge investment but funds are uncertain

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

BY NOW, almost two years have passed since the working committee was established and charged with the responsibility of devising a Five Year Economic and Social Plan for the years 1986-1990.

From time to time, we read in the newspapers about institutional and regional sub-plans, which are supposed to be components of the Master Plan, but we are told that these are only drafts submitted by ministries or governmental divisions and are still subject to revision and refinement or even scrapping if they are not realistic.

So far no official information has been given about the general framework, targets, overall size of investments and

the projections for the budget, balance of payments, gross national product and public debt for the next four years.

Even those who were chosen as member of the "general committee" are kept in the dark. The Ministry of Planning prefers to save them any trouble, as long as the figures are not in a final form.

At one time we urged the government to make a plan of policies, rather than the usual programme of investments. We have invested a lot, we argued, and it is time to make sure that the projects are operating properly, before we hasten to invest more, especially when such new investments are to be financed by external borrowing.

The public sector has already made huge investments. It is high time that the private sector lead the way, leaving the government to govern, plan, direct and control, instead of getting involved in baking bread, issuing newspapers, running hotels, and producing tomato paste.

Despite the fact that central planning is being carried out behind closed doors, while regional plans are discussed in public, observers managed to guess that investments will be in the order of JD 2500 million in five years, and the growth rate will range around 6 per cent per annum.

Foreign analysts may think that 6 per cent per annum is too

high a target, compared with the 2 to 4 per cent experienced by most advanced nations. However, they should take into account that the natural (and not so natural) population growth in Jordan is around 4 per cent per annum. The 6 per cent therefore, is hardly enough to improve per capita income by 2 per cent a year.

Based on the experience of investments in Jordan in the last ten years, the targeted 6 per cent calls for an investment as big as JD 2500 m or more in five years.

But we should point out here that a major part of our investments in the past ten years has not been highly productive. Much of it was used merely for building infrastructure, while

the other part comprised the troubled large scale projects which produced a negative return on the investment.

We do not need to build much more infrastructure. The quality of investments, rather than quantity, should be given priority when determining the use of our limited financial resources.

The rate of growth can be substantially raised by improving the performance of public sector institutions, and through stressing the quality of future investments. The aggregate amount earmarked for investments is not by itself the only, or the best, way for a reasonable growth, which can create jobs and protect the standard of living.

In view of the extended delay in formulating the five Year Plan, we assume that the decision makers are running into a crucial problem. We guess that the problem is whether or not the necessary funds will be available from Arab and foreign aid.

Of course there is no way of coming up with a definite or accurate reply to this important question. The planners will have to make an educated guess as time is running out, and very soon the government will find itself drafting the second annual budget without a plan to serve as an indicator.

In this uncertain environment, it is better to be on the safe side.

## Ground is fertile for danger

THE KILLING of the two British and one American citizens in Lebanon earlier this week, allegedly in retaliation for last Tuesday's U.S. air attacks against Libya, raises the spectre of a further foreign involvement in Lebanon and consequently the whole area. This new escalation in tension in the Middle East might involve not only an attempt by the Americans and the Israelis to undertake a joint military venture in Lebanon. It would mean that Syria, and possibly also the Soviet Union, could be dragged into a dangerous and devastating confrontation that might affect the whole world. To some of us, this would seem like fiction. But it is not necessarily so for those Arab and other observers who had thought of the U.S. attacks against Libya as a prelude to greater American involvement in the "fight against terrorism" wherever it originates and operates. These observers may have got their calculations wrong, but whatever their case is they cannot be talking out of a vacuum, especially when a Syrian-Israeli confrontation has long been on the cards and more so than ever lately.

On an educated guess, neither Syria nor Israel should have the urge on the need to consider a military confrontation at this stage.

For its part, Syria could not be sure what an all-out confrontation with the Israelis might lead to and is therefore unlikely to start a war in the immediate future. Israel, on the other hand, would be extremely reluctant to enter in a limited confrontation with the Syrians since the Israelis would have nothing much to gain from such a venture and secondly because they have always been opposed to such an idea in form and substance. But despite the fact that a Syrian-Israeli war is logically unlikely now, one cannot rule out the possibility of hostilities breaking out, simply on the strength of what is happening on the ground today.

In the continued absence of a political solution to the Lebanese and Palestinian problems, the ground can only be more fertile for dangerous actions that would be in nobody's interest. The Middle East is thus once again becoming a hot spot and a focus of world tensions. The current situation threatens world security as much as it endangers the well-being and stability of countries and peoples of this part of the world. Unless nations are aware of the complexity and dangers of the issue at stake, and they are all willing to do something about it, we cannot but express pessimism that all is not going to be well in the Mediterranean.

This is a test case for the sensibilities and wisdom of world leaders, particularly those who have the power to decide the course of events and history. Their success in this test lies not so much in avoiding further rise in tensions and bloodshed, but rather in expending maximum effort to solve problems and to find for them lasting solutions.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Ra'i: Israel pressures the Vatican

IN a bid to benefit from Pope John Paul's visit to the Jewish synagogue in Rome Israel has embarked on a wide-ranging campaign that aims at rallying further support for Israel in Europe. The Israeli campaign is trying to present the visit as a show of support for Israel, and linked with Spain's recent establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel. Through the campaign, Israel is openly demanding the Vatican to officially recognise Israel, since the Zionists consider the visit as the first step towards such recognition, and that the diplomatic ties with Spain had paved the way for the Pope's step. This ushers in an Israeli drive to politicise the Jewish and Christian religions based on the assumption that a Catholic Spain has influenced the Pope's visit or vice versa, aiming to create a Jewish-Christian political alliance that can lend necessary support for Israel. This move constituted also an Israeli reply to the on-going Islamic-Christian dialogue since it considered it as a danger to the presence of the Jewish state in Palestine, and to Israel's ambitions in other Arab countries' lands. Had the Arabs been more united, all these developments could not have taken place and Israel would not have been allowed to pursue its dreams in our region. At least the Arabs can unify their positions at present and demand an explanation from the Vatican about the visit.

### Al Dustour: Evil alliance: Israel and U.S.

THE United States and Israel have reportedly agreed on military cooperation in the Mediterranean, a sign that the two sides are determined to pursue the course of military action against other nations. The agreement came amidst continuous campaigns launched by Washington against others and extremist stands adopted by the Reagan administration with disregard to the views of other countries. This campaign, supposedly directed against terrorism, has intensified to a degree that the United States has become totally blind and unreasonable in its behaviour towards Third World nations in general and the Arab Nation in particular. In the midst of its campaign the United States has obviously lost control over its actions and begun to take unstable positions that lack reason. This unreasonable behaviour on the part of Washington has diverted its attention from real world issues to marginal problems. This behaviour coupled with all forms of escalation, made the United States look rather like a policeman carrying a heavy stick in the face of the Third World.

### Sawt Al Shaab: All problems on agenda

WE do not believe that any Arab country will refuse to attend an Arab summit meeting provided that the agenda provides a host of subjects for discussion covering all types of aggression on the Arab Nation. Any Arab action should be backed by a joint stand and the attack on Libya should not be singled out for discussion. We have other issues too like Palestine, Lebanon and Iraq in addition to the situation in Sudan. So far, half the number of Arab countries have agreed to attend the projected summit which should take action and not remain confined to the task of issuing condemnations. We want a summit that can pave the ground for a true Arab action and re-establish Arab solidarity. There is no need for hurry if preparations are to be made and the summit to achieve success. We agree to go to the summit on condition that it discusses all problems plaguing the Arab Nation and plans joint action to achieve the common goal.

## U.S. believes attack on Libya won't affect ties with Arabs

By William Scally  
 Reuters

THE U.S. attack on Libya has provoked a furious public reaction in the Middle East but Washington officials say they believe there will be no long-term effect on U.S.-Arab relations.

Analysts say that Libyan calls for Arab economic action against the United States seem to have fallen on deaf ears and that the oil weapon, used with great effect in the 1970s, has been neutralised by plummeting oil prices.

Secretary of State George Shultz summed up the administration view last Wednesday when he told journalists that public expressions of support for Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi by Arab leaders were to be expected.

But he added: "What they say privately is rather different, and I think there is a widespread sense that Qadhafi is a menace to them ... I don't think there are any illusions in the Arab World about Qadhafi."

Another official said that privately quite a few Arabs were telling the United States to carry on in its efforts to isolate Qadhafi. He said he would not expect a big change in U.S.-Arab relations.

"Countries have good relations with us for their own interests — not because they like us, but for cold-blooded reasons of national security," the American official added.

But critics fear the administration's action, widely condemned around the world, will force the Arabs to close ranks, embarrasing America's friends in the Middle East and cause them to question U.S. reliability and judgment.

The attack on Libya, combined with U.S. neglect of other vital interests in the region, "will produce an increasing suspicion that the United States does not know what it wants or how to get it in the Arab World," Frederick Axelgard, a research associate at Georgetown University's Centre for Strategic and International Studies, said.

He expressed concern about U.S. "distraction" from Egypt's economic plight and congressional efforts to halt planned major U.S. arms sales to Saudi Arabia.

Axelgard said congressional

opponents of the Saudi arms sale would probably use Saudi public statements of support for Libya in their campaign — a possibility acknowledged by U.S. officials.

Analysts say a more serious threat than Libya is posed by falling oil prices that have hit the economies of Egypt and other states hard and could in turn provoke social unrest and an upsurge in Islamic fundamentalism.

The U.S. air attack came at a time when the Middle East peace process is in what one senior official called a pause.

Efforts by Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on a joint approach to peace collapsed earlier this year and no new initiative is under way.

Critics have charged the administration with taking too passive a role in the search for peace and believe there is little prospect of movement through the rest of the Reagan presidency, which ends in January 1989.

Washington's Arab friends, too, have frequently called on the U.S. to take a more dynamic role in seeking an Arab-Israeli peace and have voiced unhappiness with the administration's refusal to put pressure on Israel.

But U.S. officials believe U.S. pressure on Libya could encourage rather than thwart any new peace efforts.

"It is Qadhafi's Libya who opposes negotiations for peace in the Middle East," Shultz said.

Experts note that the peace process itself has often been the spark for violence as opponents of a settlement launch guerrilla attacks against those who would negotiate with Israel.

Libya is one of four states in the Middle East that Washington lists as supporting what it calls "international terrorism." The others are Syria, Iran and South Yemen.

Officials see no inconsistency in singling out Libya for attack, saying that the other three countries have not targeted Americans recently.

The officials also reject any parallel between the U.S. attack and Israel's "eye for an eye" policy of responding to Palestinian resistance.

The U.S. response to "repeated provocations" by Libya had been measured and graduated, an official said.

## China faces thorny problems of bankruptcy

By Mark O'Neill

PEKING — China is grappling with two Western problems rarely acknowledged among Communist states — unemployment and bankrupt companies — as it marches down the long road of "economic reform."

It is making drastic changes to its centrally-planned economy built on the Soviet model as the Communist Party searches for "socialism with Chinese characteristics."

The leadership has decreed that firms should be accountable for their own profits and losses and workers are no longer guaranteed a job by the state.

But this has thrown up very sensitive problems of what to do with the many of state-owned firms that are in the red and with their workers if the companies are allowed to collapse.

The official media announced last month that a factory in the northeast city of Shenyang would become the first in China since 1949 to go bankrupt, because it had failed to put its house in order after a warning last year.

Vice Premier Yao Yilin told a press conference last week China needed a bankruptcy law and said such a law was now being drafted.

The top leaders have issued repeated warnings that the state cannot continue to carry the burden of losses by its firms, put at a staggering 27 billion yuan (\$8.4 billion) in the 1986 budget.

The People's Daily said managers at 20 Peking factories had

signed five-year contracts with targets for profit, quality and innovation at their plants. They face dismissal if there are serious production disruptions and demotion if the targets are not met, it said.

Premier Zhao Ziyang has ruled that nearly all firms should be solely responsible for their own profit and loss by 1990.

Those that "have long suffered from mismanagement" will have to produce different goods, be amalgamated, have their operations suspended or be shut down, he warned in a speech.

These are harsh words from the premier of a government which has often scorned what it calls the inhumanity of many employers in the capitalist world.

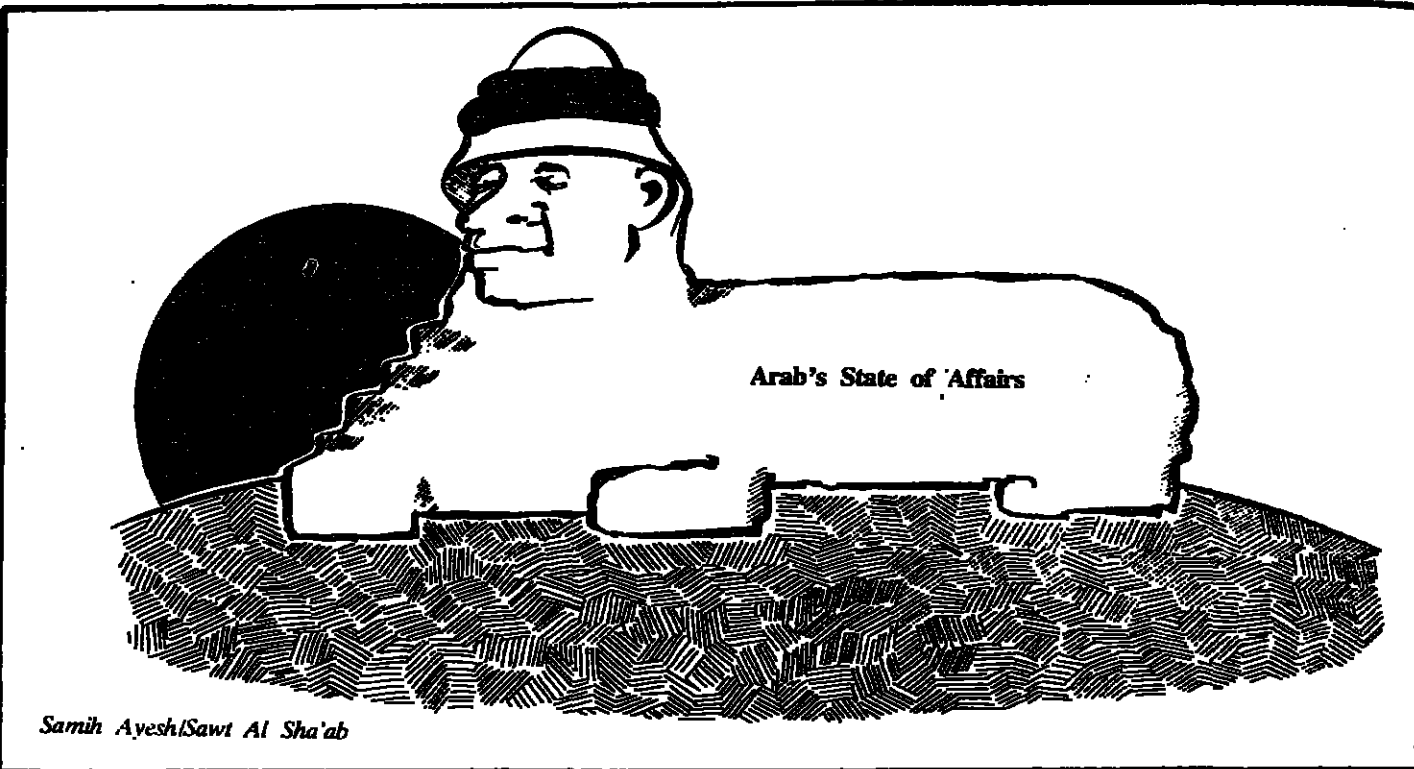
One inevitable result of bankruptcies will be more workers unemployed, "waiting for work" as it is officially called here.

Official figures, considered by Western diplomats to be too low, show there were about two million people "waiting for work" in China's cities at the end of last year.

China provides no unemployment benefits but an article in the People's Daily last year proposed an unemployment insurance system.

Those out of work are mostly supported by their families and are encouraged to find employment in locally-run business.

"The situation (of those waiting for work) is not serious due to our great efforts to create jobs," Yao said last week.



Samih Ayesh/Sawt Al Sha'ab

## Words, not war, mark Arab reaction to U.S. attack

By John Rogers  
 Reuters

CAIRO — Most Arab countries are outraged by the U.S. air attack on Libya but appear to have little scope or desire for action against the United States.

Arab governments and commentators have concentrated verbal firepower on the attacks by one of the world's most powerful countries on an Arab state, and on the use of force to resolve conflicts.

But few have spoken out forcefully in favour of Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, who has quarrelled with most Arab leaders since he came to power in 1969, preaching revolution and Arab unity and campaigning against the region's conservative states.

Some, like Egypt, depend on Washington for economic and military aid. The Gulf Arab states are generally pro-Western and most have close ties with the U.S.

Arab oil-producers, at a time of sliding crude prices, would find it difficult to risk extra economic upheaval by taking financial reprisals against the U.S. or Britain, from which U.S. F-111 warplanes flew to attack the Libyan targets.

"Unified Arab action against the U.S. is unlikely," said a diplomat in Amman, noting deep rifts

exist in Arab ranks.

"Let's be realistic. Qadhafi has no Arab ally except Hafez Al Assad of Syria," wrote Egyptian columnist Moussa Sabri.

"The other Arab countries collectively oppose his methods and some fear his (Qadhafi's) crimes and pander to him just to avoid his evil," Sabri wrote, adding: "The Arabs will not fight America."

Diplomats in Damascus believe that Syria can do little without concerted Arab action, except to take limited sanctions like reducing the number of U.S. embassy staff in the country.

It was not clear whether Syria would attend an Arab summit called for by Qadhafi — though diplomats in the Gulf said Assad was unlikely to object to a meeting.

Libya's other main regional ally, non-Arab Iran, is locked in a bitter war with Iraq, backed by most Arab states.

In Tehran, a revolutionary guard spokesman denied a press report that Iran would send troops to Tripoli to back Qadhafi.

Diplomats said Iran and Syria felt the only possible response to the U.S. was to make political capital out of anti-American sentiment aroused by the air raids in Muslim and other Third World countries.

"Direct military confrontation

is out of the question," said a Tehran diplomat from an Arab radical state.

There was no sign that Arab states well-disposed to the West were in a mood to get tough.

Morocco, a close ally of Washington also tied to Libya by a treaty of union, offered to mediate between them last month.

While Moroccan political parties denounced the U.S. raids, they stopped short of urging sanctions or proposing material backing for Libya.

But Western diplomats said Rabat might join in symbolic retaliation, such as a limited boycott of American products, if a consensus emerged among the Arab League's 21 members.

Algeria has been improving its relations with the U.S. and, though more radical than Morocco, was unlikely to sever ties, the diplomats added. Like Libya, it has demanded an urgent Arab summit to discuss the crisis.

Tripoli at first called for a meeting of the League's joint defence council, grouping foreign and defence ministers, but dropped the call — perhaps, according to Western diplomats in Tunis, because it feared Arab resolve was weak.

In the Gulf, there appeared to be a general consensus for an urgent

summit, although Kuwait was the only Gulf state to announce early acceptance of Libya's call.

The U.S. raids prompted strong inactivity from Saudi Arabia. Washington's main Gulf ally, the Saudis condemned the attack and rejected Washington's claim of self-defence in response to what the U.S. claims to be "Libyan-sponsored terrorist acts."

The United Arab Emirates was the only Arab state to take measures against the U.S. and Britain, calling off scheduled talks with a U.S. construction team and with the British government.

Diplomatic sources said Bahrain and Qatar were likely to follow Riyadh's lead. Oman, a U.S. ally, has not commented.

Egypt, Washington's closest Arab ally and an old foe of Qadhafi, deplored the raids but went further than expected in proposing measures to ease the effects of the U.S. strikes.

The government said it had offered to help evacuate foreigners from Libya and to send first aid for the wounded. But Tripoli turned down the offer of medical help.

Newspapers said the crisis underscored the need for an international conference on terrorism already proposed by President Hosni Mubarak.

## LETTERS

### Safety for park goers

To the editor,

THE efforts of Amman Municipality to beautify the city are well worth commending. Now that spring is here the flowers, trees and shrubs are blooming forth and are more than pleasing to the eye amid the expanses of tarmac and concrete. It is also wonderful to see that parks and gardens are being set up in different parts of the city so that families who are not fortunate enough to have their own gardens may spend some of their leisure time amid grass, trees and flowers.

However, I would like to ask the municipality to please, please give careful consideration as to where they locate these parks. The new park in Wadi Saqra, although large and well-landscaped, is a hazard. Cars park on both sides of the two-lane highway and vehicles travel along this particular stretch of road at great speed. On several occasions I have seen women with prams or pushchairs and young children emerge from the shrubbery in the centre of the road to cross over to the park and I have seen cars swerve to avoid hitting them. One time a mother had to let go of the pram, which she left in the road, to grab a small child who was running excitedly across the road to get to the park. Luckily it happened to me driving along the road. I say luckily because I drive slowly, especially when I have my child in the car and when I am driving past this park because I am aware of the dangers. I dread to think what may have happened if it had been someone else driving along there at speed. If the entrance to the park cannot be relocated along a side-road, would it not be safer to at least have a proper crossing with beacons and lights to stop the cars or warning signs erected on both sides of the road?

I believe that road safety should be the responsibility of both drivers and pedestrians but other precautions do help. I am also aware that it is very difficult for the municipality to find available land where they can set up public parks and gardens but I sincerely hope that a way can be found to make a visit to the park as happy and safe as it should be.

Anne Counsell

P.O. Box 2089  
 Amman

### RCC defended

To the Editor:

JUSTIFIABLE criticism is nearly always good and can help remedy questionable conditions. Criticism, just for the sake of criticism however, is never good and never helpful.

With this in mind, I was distressed to read Randa Habib's comments about the Royal Culture Centre in the Jordan Times of April 17-18. Had I not spent hours there in the past month, I might have not known what she was talking about nor would I have had to take her comments as fact. As I have been there, I feel that I must correct some of her allegations.

Anyone who has been associated with the "Annie" production realises the sacrifices the RCC staff have made in making the play the success it is. Due to budget cuts, they have often had to work extra hours with no extra pay. At the present time, when rising costs bring the future of the whole centre into question, there is certainly nothing extra to purchase cute uniforms with. As to the allegation that people were ushered in by staff who were smoking, if they were in fact staff, they must have been ushering in late comers during their cigarette break, as I have never seen any staff member with a cigarette in the main theatre ever!

In Miss Habib's closing sentence, she mentioned cleanliness as being necessary for the atmosphere of the theatre. Throughout rehearsals children were prohibited from sitting in the main theatre to watch, because of the high standards of cleanliness which the staff enforces. With no budget for replacement, keeping present furnishings at their present level is one of their main priorities.

Last, but not least, Miss Habib's criticisms the parking lot. I have parked my car in this lot every night for the past 3 weeks, and the one thing which it does have is bright lights ... very bright. It was never necessary for me to carry a flash light in order to find my car.

Instead of criticism, the RCC staff deserve many thanks. Thank you for being so patient, thank you for working those long extra hours, thank you for all the help and advice, and thank you for making the RCC the wonderful place that it is.

Karen Asfory  
 P.O. Box 6367  
 Amman.

هنا من الأمل



## Dassault — French aviation giant dies

PARIS (AP) — Marcel Dassault, who survived the Buchenwald concentration camp to make a fortune building some of the world's most sophisticated warplanes, died during the night at the American hospital of Paris, hospital officials said Friday. He was 94.

The cause of death was not immediately revealed.

His professional life spanned more than 70 years, from developing wooden propellers for primitive biplanes to selling supersonic Mirage fighters and executive jets in more than 50 countries.

Dassault, who was considered one of the richest men in Europe, had been hospitalized for 17 days. Christine Mougin, spokeswoman for the aircraft company, confirmed the death, but refused to give further details, indicating that the family would do so later.

As the doyen of the National Assembly, Dassault was scheduled to give the opening speech of the spring session April 2, but was unable to do so for health reasons. His speech was read by another deputy.

His personal worth was never made public, but his interests in addition to aeronautics included real estate, construction, film studios, publishing, finance, forestry, electrical engineering and vineyards.

In 1981, Avions Dassault-Breguet was listed by *Forbes* as the eighth largest aircraft manufacturer in the world with annual sales of 12.4 billion francs (\$2.5 billion at the time) and 15,800 employees. It exported 70-80 per cent of its production.

Dassault was, by all accounts, a timid and private person. But he was also shrewd. Quick to see the commercial advantage of political influence, and despite his distaste for crowds, he forced himself to run for elective office. At his death, he was the senior member of the French National Assembly.

Dassault's genius, according to biographers and associates, was his ability to see simple solutions to complex problems. What detractors took for naïveté was really a straightforward faith in the rewards of hard work and common sense.

He appeared to take most things in stride, including the two nationalisations of his aircraft companies underwent 45 years apart. He was born Marcel Bloch on Jan. 22, 1892, the youngest of four sons of Dr. Adolphe Bloch, a French Jew and modestly successful Paris physician. Marcel was six when Emilie Zola's "Accuse" forced France to examine its anti-Semitic attitudes, and the "Dreyfus affair" was often the subject of dinner-table conversation at the Bloch home.

But the young Marcel Bloch was never attracted to the Jewish religion or tradition. After serving eight months in the Buchenwald

concentration camp, he returned to France after the liberation. And, in 1949, like thousands of other French Jews, he had his name legally changed, becoming Marcel Dassault. In the 1950s, he converted to Roman Catholicism.

His older brother, Darius, a specialist in mechanised warfare who rose to the rank of general in the post-war French army, had adopted the nom de guerre of Chardassau (Assault tank) when he first joined the resistance in Nazi-occupied France. He later changed it simply to Dassault and became Darius Bloch-Dassault after the war.

Some detractors implied that Marcel adopted Dassault as his name to cash in on his brother's reputation and to try to erase the memory of his pre-war Bloch 210 and Bloch 220 planes, which crashed so often they were known as "flying coffins."

But Pierre Assouline, in his unauthorized but well-regarded 1983 biography "Monsieur Dassault," speculated that the always forward-looking Dassault simply wanted to put the past behind him and ensure his descendants against future pogroms.

Assouline said that Dassault never let the name Bloch be mentioned in his presence. He gave generously to charities, including the Catholic Relief Agency, but his contributions never reached those organisations which might remind him of his past, Assouline said.

But the man who thought only of the future had an extraordinary past.

Dassault, who for many Frenchmen was as familiar a part of the national landscape as the Eiffel tower, was only three years younger than Gustave Eiffel's most famous creation. Dassault was eight years old when the universal exposition in Paris of 1900 first exposed him to the wonders of technology.

It was at that exposition, he wrote later, wandering through the halls of marvellous steam engines and passing by booths demonstrating the infant applications of electricity, that he began his life-long affair with applied science.

"I was influenced by the life of Edison, that young newspaper boy who became a great inventor, a great scientist and a great industrialist," he wrote in his brief 1970 autobiography "The Talisman."

By 1910, he saw his first airplane in flight and was hooked on aviation. When World War I broke out, Dassault, armed with degrees in aeronautical design and electrical engineering, was assigned to an aviation regiment in Reims. He started by designing improved propellers for the Spad biplanes. By 1917, with his partner Henry Potez, he was building the Sea4



Dassault's Mirage 2000 at 1985 Paris Air Show (File photo)

monoplane.

The French government was impressed and ordered 1,000 Sea4 fighters. But the armistice was signed as the first model rolled out of the factory, and only 100 were ever delivered.

Dassault married Madeleine Hirsch-Minckes in a Jewish religious ceremony in 1919 and went into the building and construction business. The demobilisation had dried up the market for planes.

But by 1930, convinced along with many others that air power would be the determining factor in the next war, he teamed up with Potez again and built a successful tri-motor mail plane.

With the German military build-up of the 1930s, Dassault began turning out a series of fighter craft, working closely with the French military and government.

He already had established a pattern of hiring away top military aviation officers at healthy salaries, and Avions Marcel Bloch enjoyed close — some said incestuous — contacts with the people who awarded the government contracts.

By 1935, he was a millionaire. And by 1938, the popular front government of Socialist Leon Blum had nationalised his aircraft company. Dassault was handsomely paid, and he also remained head of the company while holding onto his private aeronautics research and development firms.

It was a cozy arrangement which allowed Dassault to buy his own designs with state funds. But Dassault's life changed radically after the Nazis marched into France in 1940.

During the German occupation, there were virulent anti-Semitic attacks against Dassault in the French press and he was in and out of French jails until March 30, 1944, when he was arrested by the Gestapo.

On Aug. 25, 1944, Dassault became inmate No. 39611 at the Buchenwald concentration camp in Germany. He was 52 and had been in frail health for years. But he survived a bout of diphtheria and narrowly escaped a transfer to the Auschwitz death camp. In 1945, sick but alive, he returned to Paris.

By 1946, he was back in business manufacturing successful aircraft. In 1952, his mystère II fighter became the first European plane to break the sound barrier in level flight.

The fine performance of Soviet

MiGs during the Korean War convinced Dassault that the next generation of fighters had to be simpler, lighter and more manoeuvrable. By the late 1950s, Dassault's Delta-winged Mirage III was flying for air forces in France, Australia, Switzerland, South Africa and Pakistan.

Israel followed suit in the early 1960s, and Israeli Mirages shot down seven Egyptian MiGs in only a few minutes during the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. But that war led to a French arms embargo against Israel and Dassault looked to other markets.

His salesmen, aided by generous credit deals from the French government, peddled Mirage fighters and Dassault Super-Etendard jets to Peru, Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, Zaire, Morocco, Libya, India and others.

In 1971, he absorbed his only remaining French competitor, Breguet. Over the years, he launched a successful weekly magazine, *Jours de France*, and produced a string of popular, family-oriented film comedies and romances.

During the permissive 1970s, the cheerful, fluffy film titles at the Dassault-owned theatre on Paris' Champs-Elysees contrasted sharply with the sex and violence portrayed on Marquises along the rest of the famous avenue.

On May 11, 1981, France woke up with its first Socialist government since Blum. Dassault again was nationalised, and again he seemed to take it with equanimity.

The government already owned 20 per cent of his aviation company. Dassault "gave" the government 26 per cent more, worth an estimated 18 billion francs (\$2.2 billion at the time), and the government bought an additional 5 per cent to gain majority control.

Dassault held on to everything else and remained as technical adviser for the aviation firm. No effort was made to nationalise his giant electronics firm, which he had passed on to his son, Serge.

Dassault's "gift" to the government of aviation stock was widely rumoured to have ensured that the conservative parliamentarian's other concerns not be nationalised.

And while the rest of the French business community worried about the Socialist ascension to power, Dassault serenely told one interviewer: "Things aren't as bad as all that. And besides, I like change."

## Bangkok — worth more than a goggle

Thailand — Bangkok especially — is today mostly famous as the sex capital of the world. Yet, as Antony Thornecraft points out, this beautiful country has so much more to offer.

BANGKOK — Poor Thailand! An independent country which, almost alone in Asia, avoided the clutches of Western colonial powers in the 19th century; a religious country in which virtually every male becomes a Buddhist monk for some period of his life; a beautiful country, ranging from unexploited jungle in the north to under-exploited tropical islands in the south — and yet now most famous as the sex capital of the world.

The passivity, poverty and beauty of the people played into the hands of the Americans looking for a safe rest and recreation hole for their army in Vietnam. Now, much to its chagrin, Thailand, most especially Bangkok, has a reputation for salacity.

Perhaps it is best to face facts and get the subject out of the way, for it would be a blinkered visitor who did not stroll through Patpong, the main sex centre of the city (rival neighbourhoods have developed to cope with the demand). Its very fame makes it unthreatening. Most tourists go to goggle, so that what is really a matter of just three short streets becomes one vast open air theatre.

There is no danger and not too much badgering; just, for Westerners, a glimpse of how everything is up for sale when poverty goes hand-in-hand with the absence of Protestant non-conformist conscience.

I went with a group of journalists, the majority of them women. Clubs offer basically the same show and entrance is cheap — around 45 baht (about \$1.90), and for this you get a beer. For most tourists, it is more than enough to drink your beer while, on the bar counter a foot or so away, three or four girls, all quite naked, go through party tricks with cigarettes, ping pong balls, bananas, and chop sticks. It has about as much appeal as watching an amateur conjurer and the lack of mystery and sensuality makes it depressingly unexciting. There are "massage" rooms above most bars where the tourist can take the girls.

The British backpackers were soon after a more meaty story, so on to the next club where the beer was 50 baht but you got a gymnastic show for your jaded imagination. There are also bars where the girls are selected by number.

Patpong is certainly worth a detour. It is good natured, garish, shocking more to the mind rather than to the body, a night out for glibly tourists rather than the gateway to decadence and debauchery. Not surprisingly there is hardly a Thai in sight. They go to the enormous massage parlours which look like government ministries, located on the vast avenues that divide up Bangkok. Here you

can actually get an excellent massage for around 200 baht — and then the coquettish bagging starts.

Most hotels are unable to stop guests returning with girls, but we stayed at the Oriental which stakes its reputation on its celibacy. Like Patpong it is a tourist attraction in its own right. Every few years it rebuilds itself but it never disturbs the old structure; the hotel of Coward and Maugham, the hotel where Conrad relaxed after navigating his coaster up the Menam Chao Phya, the river that dominates Thai history.

Sitting on the terrace of the Oriental is the best place to start a visit to the real Bangkok, the 200-year-old city whose attractions are its temples, its people and its food. The first realisation is that Bangkok has not yet been ruined by modern skyscrapers. They are coming quickly but for a few more years this will be a Thai city, its streets awash with people eating at the hundreds of stalls and markets, bagging, staring, usually smiling, small scale.

Tucked away behind the grey buildings are the temples which have obviously received all the surplus wealth of the Thais for centuries. It will perhaps be enough to see the temples of the Golden Buddha, the five-and-a-half ton solid gold Buddha discovered only in 1955 caked in concrete, and of the reclining Buddha, leaving the remaining 398 in Bangkok for another time.

Serious sightseeing should be concentrated on the Grand Palace built just more than 200 years ago and a combination of Westminster Abbey and the Tower of London. This is where the kings lived and the nation worshipped. Walked and covered one square mile, it is an overwhelming mass of visual images — gold leaf and coloured stones, gilded tiles and Italian mosaics, gaudy and ostentatious, a confusion made of hundreds and thousands. Too rich for Western taste, perhaps, but redeemed by the obvious power it has over Thais, especially in the Temple of the Emerald Buddha (actually made of jade), the Holy of Holies, where bells tinkle in the breeze and the tourists sit shoeless and awed, careful not to point feet (the ultimate insult) at the 700cm-high figure, which cannot be photographed.

The Grand Palace becomes more comprehensible when you move away from the vast gold domes and pagodas (said to contain relics of the Lord Buddha) and into the living accommodation, built when the Thai kings were much influenced by Victorian England; the solid lamp-posts, supplied by W.T. Allen & Co., of Upper Thames



Tourists, flocking for the city's earthly delights, shun the slums of Bangkok, where people live in appalling conditions (File photo)

Street, still remain in the courtyards.

Bangkok is, geographically, an impossible city for the tourist to get to grips with so it's best to take a "tuk-tuk", an unsteady but exhilarating three-wheeled scooter, fixing the fare with the driver, usually around 40 baht, before getting on. Other transportation which should be tried is the "dragon" speed boat which shoots up and down the river. An early morning trip along the canals to Wat Sai market, half an hour's spray-splattered journey from the centre, is exciting and economic (around 160 baht a head). This market is not too tourist-ridden and at 7.30 you can mingle with the locals and pick over pineapples and peppers, cauliflower and camellia, every fruit, vegetable, and spice you ever knew and some you didn't.

Another "must" in Bangkok is a boat trip up river to the palace at Bang Pa-in, an intriguing mixture of Thai, 18th century French and Victorian English architecture, with voracious carp in the lakes, rose gardens, and a touching memorial to a royal concubine and her children who drowned because servants were not allowed to touch such notables. It was created by the Crown Prince pupil of the English governess Anna (played by Deborah Kerr), although the film "The King and I", like the song "One night in Bangkok," are banned in Thailand.

Not far from Bang Pa-in, Thai history goes back more than 600 years at the ruined Ayutthaya, the old capital before it was razed by the Burmese in the 18th century. The towering pagodas, scorched and desolate, built to receive the ashes of a king, are a useful reminder of the strangeness and antiquity of the country. The nearby market and the temple where, after offering gold leaf, a lotus flower and rice you can scatter the sticks which tell your fortune, have only changed over the centuries in the proliferation of western consumer goods (often made in Taiwan and sold at prices below those of Hong Kong).

You cannot make the most of Bangkok if you play the tourist, going on organised trips and eating in the hotels. The place gives away little; the best secrets are discovered off the main streets which have recently been built in an attempt to cope with the traffic chaos. The hotels are particularly anemic over Thai food — it is invariably watered down for Western palates. So after getting to bed early following a quick trip into Patpong, rise at dawn for the roller-coaster ride to Wat Sai market, and a mind-improving tour of the Grand Palace then take a tuk-tuk to Soradaeng restaurant in Rajprasong Centre. I can recommend the steamed serpent head and the inflorescence of banana salad — *Financial Times* feature.

## The changing role of the Gulf expatriate

By Richard Roberts

FOR millions of expatriates who have benefited from — and enjoyed — the challenge of working in the Gulf, a cold wind of change has begun to blow. This change will affect their future role in the region.

The most visible target is the construction industry, where the completion of a large part of national development programmes has released entire workforces who are now being repatriated because of reduced activity. Similarly affected are those in secondary industries such as catering, transport or materials supply, which depend on construction.

Two other forces are also at work. First, Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) governments have given priority to education and vocational training programmes, which are now beginning to bear fruit. Increasing numbers of qualified locals are taking key roles in commerce and industry.

A prime example of this is the recent start-up of Saudi Arabia's Al Jubail Petrochemical Company (Kemya). Usually handled largely by expatriates, start-ups are crucial times in the process industry. In Kemya's case, the success of training programmes in the kingdom and in the U.S. meant Saudi technicians and managers und-

ertook most of the operation themselves.

Such involvement is being encouraged by legislative changes emphasising the need to exhaust the local market before employing expatriate staff. Senior expatriates are now expected to part of their job, aimed at training a national to replace them. Throughout the region, on-job-training (OJT) will further reduce the scope and need for expatriates.

Second, the slide in the oil market has affected budget forecasts and development plans alike. Pragmatic reappraisals brought about by diminished revenues have led to many projects being reduced in size; others have been cancelled, with inevitable cuts in staffing. These cuts, in a market already under pressure, lead weight to the Saudi Arabian Planning Ministry's recent projection that more than 1 million expatriate jobs will disappear by 1990. Many observers agree that the new, lower level of business activity is more stable and healthy — but it means real changes for the expatriates who remain.

Expatriates have been lured to the Gulf by high tax-free earnings. But the factors listed above have caused reviews of salary and fringe benefits throughout the public and private sectors, prompted by the

need for more competitive pricing on projects generally.

Falls of up to 50 per cent in tender prices in only three years have been made possible not only by more realistic pricing and reduced profits, but also by lower salaries. In 1982, third country national salaries started at \$200-250 a month. The same jobs are now being taken for \$80-100 a month, with home leave cut from once a year to once every two or three years. Many Western expatriates have reported salary cuts of 25 per cent or more. Exchange rate fluctuations and home country inflation have further reduced differentials; contract terms have hardened noticeably — fewer posts are offered on accompanied status, and home leave has been reduced in frequency.

The cumulative effect is that many experienced professionals will not now consider working in the Gulf. Again and again, job offers are reported to have been turned down because of poor pay and conditions. In key skill areas, there are now shortages of suitably qualified staff; unfilled positions have become relatively common on several big public-sector contracts.

Despite the apparent recession, spending remains high in real terms. The industrial and infrastructure projects now starting

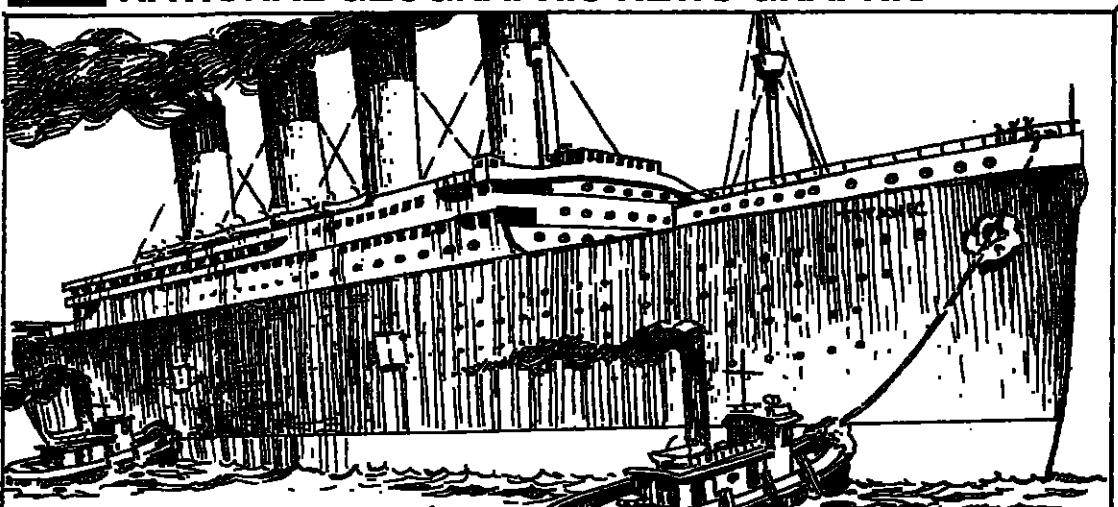
up are the cornerstones of national development plans and will depend, at least in the short term, on skills and expertise not yet fully available in the Gulf. Communications networks, process engineering — particularly in downstream chemicals — air traffic control, ports operation, and power station operation and maintenance are areas where demand for expatriates is still growing.

Expats have a place

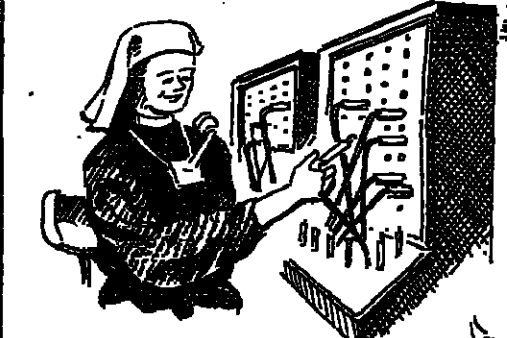
There is then a clear continuing role for the expatriate. Much has changed: they will not be the same people that were needed in the 1970s; they will have to bring with them new and higher levels of expertise, and be able to pass them on through OJT and formal training programmes. In the short term, they must be prepared to accept more difficult and even less attractive terms of employment. But, given the size and sophistication of the infrastructure throughout the region, there will continue to be a role for those who have this special blend of skill and experience — MEED

Richard Roberts is director and manager of London-based consultant ARA International, which has specialised in Middle East recruitment since 1971.

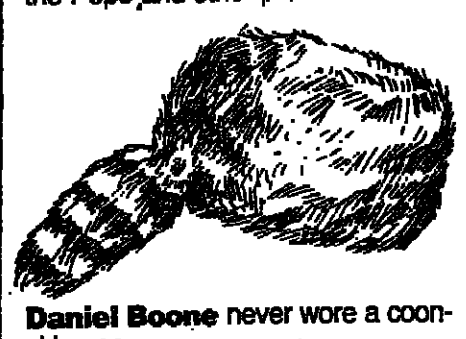
## NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC NEWS GRAPHIC



One-way passage in one of the best suites of the doomed ocean liner *Titanic*, which sank in 1912 on her maiden voyage, cost \$4,350, the equivalent of nearly \$50,000 in today's funds.



Women of the Vatican, mostly Nuns, work chiefly as telephone operators and as cooks and housekeepers for the Pope and other prelates.



Daniel Boone never wore a coonskin cap.



Party to bar an interoceanic canal that would have competed with the Panama canal, U.S. Marines landed in Nicaragua in 1909, beginning an occupation that lasted most of the time until 1933.

Drawing by Stokes Walsby  
© National Geographic Society

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# Liverpool and Everton put lock on title race

LONDON (R) — Having turned the English First Division championship into their own private club in recent years, Liverpool and Everton kept the door firmly shut on any prospective new members Saturday.

Liverpool, champions from 1982-84, remained top on goal-difference by beating Second Division-bound West Bromwich 2-1 away while 1985 winners Everton also took maximum points with a 1-0 home win over Ipswich.

Only West Ham of the chasing group managed to keep pace with the leaders, courtesy of a 2-0 victory at Watford, as Manchester United and Chelsea both dropped valuable points.

United were held to a goalless draw at Tottenham and, although they remain third, the championship is now beyond them. They trail the Merseysiders by seven points with just two games to play.

Chelsea still have a mathematical chance of winning the title after their 1-1 home draw against Newcastle but both Liverpool and Everton would need to lose all their remaining games for that to happen.

West Ham, 10 points adrift, do not appear a serious threat, although they have three games in hand over Liverpool and two over Everton.

With due respect to West Ham, who remain one of the most enterprising teams in the land, the title looks destined to go to Merseyside for the fifth successive season and while Everton are narrow favourites with a game in hand, Liverpool are looking ominously powerful.

They totally outclassed West Bromwich during the opening half

hour, though a 23rd minute goal by Kenny Dalglish was all they had to show for the superiority.

Liverpool's one flaw is a tendency to relax when in front and they suffered the acute embarrassment of conceding a shock equaliser six minutes from the interval when Craig Madden pounced on a defensive error.

But a 65th minute effort from Welshman Ian Rush put Liverpool back in control. They proceeded to subdue the home team with their renowned possession football which left the West Bromwich players chasing shadows.

With top scorer Gary Lineker sidelined through injury, Everton were understandably short of goal-power up front against Ipswich and Graeme Sharp's 64th minute winner was scant reward for their entertaining approach work.

Sharp's well-placed header was Everton's only attempt on target in the entire 90 minutes, although Lineker's stand-in Adrian Heath and England World Cup midfielder Trevor Steven both hit the crossbar with Ipswich goalkeeper Paul Cooper stranded out of goal.

West Ham collected three points and the respect of the home supporters at Watford for their refusal to throw up a blanket defence after Tony Cottee's 59th minute opener.

The Londoners continued to press forward rather than defend and their entertaining approach was richly rewarded when Scottish

striker Frank McAvennie added the second in the last minute.

McAvennie's international colleague Pat Nevin was on target for Chelsea after 20 minutes against Newcastle at Stamford Bridge. However, the Londoners failed to press home their advantage and the visitors gained a deserved share of the spoils when Ian Anderson equalised on the stroke of halftime.

At the other end of the table, Birmingham joined city neighbours West Bromwich in the Second Division after going down 2-0 at home to Southampton.

Oxford, who meet Queen's Park Rangers in the League Cup final at Wembley Sunday, are favourites to accompany them.

Hearts' hopes of winning the Scottish championship for the first time since 1960 received an unexpected boost when Dundee United were held to a 1-1 draw by already relegated Clydebank.

That result means Hearts will need just one point from their two remaining fixtures if they stretch their unbeaten run to 30 games by taking both points off Aberdeen at home Sunday.

Glasgow Celtic retained an outside chance of overhauling the leading two with a 2-0 home win over Hibernian with goals from Owen Archdeacon and Brian McClair.

McClair's 88th minute effort was Celtic's 7,000th league goal.

Graeme Souness' imminent arrival from Italy to take over as player-manager has done little for Glasgow Rangers and they slipped to their second successive 2-1 away defeat against St. Mirren to drop into the lower half of the Premier League.

## FISA representative to arrive for Jordan Rally

AMMAN (J.T.) — Federation Internationale du Sport Automobile (FISA) representative Mr. Helmut Kohler is scheduled to arrive in Amman Sunday to provide official sanction and supervision for the 1986 Rothmans Jordan Rally on April 23-25. In addition, Mr. Kohler will prepare an evaluation of the rally according to international criteria related to organisational and technical aspects of the race. The evaluation will be used to compare the Jordan Rally with other international rallies for possible inclusion in the world championship schedule. Royal Automobile Club of Jordan Director Derek Ledger and other race organisers hope to achieve world championship status by earning a grade of 130 points or better, out of a possible 150. The 1985 Jordan Rally received a score of 125.7 points, and the Ivory Coast Rally gained a spot on the world championship trail with a score of just 120 points, so the goal seems well within reach. Breaking the 150-point barrier would also make the Jordan Rally the best in the region, according to FISA classifications. In their efforts to reach the world championship plateau, Jordan Rally organisers have also enlisted the advice and opinion of Mr. Jean Francois Rugey, a world-class well-known race organiser who is currently in Amman to observe the preparations for this week's rally.



## Connors, Wilander reach final of Suntory tourney

TOKYO (AP) — Sweden's Mats Wilander downed no. 1-ranked Ivan Lendl in straight sets while a scrambling Jimmy Connors wore down Stefan Edberg Saturday in the \$250,000 Suntory Cup tennis tournament.

The Swedish Wilander, ranked third in the world, took advantage of Lendl's erratic serving and uneven play to beat the big Czechoslovak 6-4, 6-4.

Connors, 13 years older than his 20-year-old Swedish opponent, battled two hours and 20 minutes before scoring his 7-5, 5-7, 6-3 victory.

Wilander will meet Connors, three-time winner of this four-man event, in the finals Sunday.

Wilander the 1985 French Open winner, played a see-saw first set with Lendl until the 10th game, when a doublefault by Lendl helped the 21-year-old Swede break Lendl's serve for the set.

Lendl, 1985 U.S. Open champion and the world's top-ranked

## U.S. runners have lost their edge

BOSTON (R) — American marathon runners, also-rans in a sport they used to dominate, look likely to stay in the shadow of foreign competitors in the 90th Boston Marathon on Monday.

The overseas trio of Australian Rob De Castella, the former world number one and still formidable, Orlando Pizzolato of Italy, winner of the last two New York Marathons, and Kunimitsu Ito of Japan should once more leave Americans in the shade.

Yet as recently as 1982, the world's top 10 marathon times belonged to Americans — Alberto Salazar, Dick Beardsley and Greg Meyer. But last year no American was in the top ten.

The U.S. fall from the top was most visible to a worldwide audience in the 1984 Olympics.

The gold went to Carlos Lopes of Portugal, who also holds the world record of two hours, seven minutes and 12 seconds, set last year in Rotterdam. Irishman John Treacy won the silver and Charlie Spedding of Britain captured the bronze.

The top U.S. finisher was Pete Pfitzinger, in 11th place.

The fastest American last year was Phil Coppens, whose time of 2:10.08 landed him in the 18th spot in the world.

The New York Marathon, the event that brought worldwide attention and big money to marathoning, was won again by Piz-

zolato. Steve Jones of Britain won the Chicago Marathon, and Britain's Geoff Smith has taken the last two Boston Marathons.

Meyer in 1983 was the last American to win here and will try to win again on Monday.

He and Pfitzinger, Ken Martin, Dave Gordon and Paul Cummings will be leading an attempt to restore American marathon success.

Several explanations are offered for the American decline.

"When the money started coming in, the road racing scene here became competitive instantaneously, like the European track circuit," said American Bill Rodgers, 1975 Boston winner and one of the best-known of the early U.S. runners.

In the past few years the Boston race came to symbolize the changes in marathoning, largely because of the organizers' refusal to award cash prizes or appearance fees to top runners as other cities were doing.

Boston became a secondary race. But this year for the first time in its history, Boston will award cash prizes.

"The marathon is a worldwide event," said Pfitzinger. "Countries all over the world are concentrating on it. A few years before it was just the U.S., Britain and one or two other countries. Now it is a real worldwide event." "It is more the rest of the world catching up with us than us dropping."

## PSG fails to clinch French league

PARIS (R) — Paris Saint-Germain failed to wrap up the French Soccer League title Friday when they were beaten 3-1 at Metz in the penultimate round of the First Division season.

Nantes retained an outside chance of catching them at the post when they scored a 2-1 home win over Auxerre to reduce the gap to two points with one match remaining.

PSG, who have led the championship all season, still have the better goal difference and should still collect the title for the first time in their 13-year history.

But their fifth defeat of the season means they will not know for sure until next Friday's First Division finale when they entertain bottom-of-the-table Bastia.

PSG, who had to replace injured goalkeeper Joel Bats with international team-mate Luis

Fernandez at half-time, were hit by a goal from Carmelo Micciche in the 45th minute and two more in the second half by the league's leading marksman Jules Bocande, the second from a penalty following a foul by Philippe Jeannot on Micciche.

Alain Couriol, who came on as substitute for Robert Jaques in the 69th minute, pulled one back for PSG with a header three minutes from time.

Nantes kept their theoretical hopes alive with their win over Auxerre. Pierre Morice scored their first from a 62nd minute free-kick but Patrice Garande equalised in the 79th.

Morice struck the bar with another free-kick in the 83rd minute and Loic Amisse followed it up to score and clinch both points for Nantes.

Outgoing champions Bordeaux,

already assured of third place, achieved a 5-3 home win over Le Havre, thanks to a hat-trick by reserve striker Marc Pascal.

West German ex-World Cup centre-forward Uwe Reinders gave Bordeaux the lead with a 20th minute header and an own goal by Pascal Drieu made it 2-0 in the 27th minute.

Pascal notched his first in the 33rd minute and although Pascal Pain was on hand to reduce the arrears for Le Havre in the 40th, the Bordeaux attacker grabbed another a minute later following a monumental defensive blunder.

Merry Kruman cut the gap again just before the interval and Pain reduced it still further with a fine goal in the 64th minute but Pascal completed his hat-trick nine minutes from time to seal victory for Bordeaux.

## Sharjah to stage 2nd cricket series

SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates (R) — The desert sheikhdom of Sharjah will stage another big money international cricket tournament later this year after the success of the Australasia Cup, dramatically won by Pakistan.

Millionaire Abdul Rahman Bukhatir, promoting the game in Sharjah, said Friday night the West Indies, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka had been invited to play in a competition carrying more than \$100,000 in prize money in November.

"The West Indies have promised to come and we expect the same response from the other invitees," said Bukhatir.

He said exact dates were not yet finalised but the four-nation one-day contests would probably

start on November 28.

The five-nation Australasia Cup competition was hailed as an outstanding success, with Bukhatir's \$10-million, 20,000-capacity stadium overflowing and several thousand spectators looked out for the India-Pakistan final on Friday.

Pakistan won their first major one-day trophy when Man-of-the-Match Javed Miandad slammed a six off the last ball with nine wickets down.

Miandad's magnificent unbeaten 116, which lifted Pakistan past India's score of 245 for seven, was lauded by his skipper Imran Khan as the best he had seen in one-day cricket.

"The result was incredible," said Imran. "That innings was the

greatest I've ever seen in one-day cricket."

Pakistan looked like they were not in the hunt, needing nine runs an over in the last 10 overs, until Miandad cut loose with a furious assault on the Indian bowlers.

Pakistan required 11 off the last over and were still four runs short with one ball to go. Miandad clouted it out of the ground for his third six.

It earned Pakistan the winner's purse of \$40,000, plus Miandad an extra \$2,500 as Man of the Match.

Miandad was also a beneficiary this year from the benevolent fund set up by Bukhatir in promoting international tournaments in Sharjah. He and Indian Philip Venkatar each received \$50,000.

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661221 after 17:00

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has started receiving applications for teaching positions for 1986/87 year. Applicants should have major in English, university degree, 3-5 years teaching experience with children, certification in education.

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### THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN THE JORDAN VALLEY AUTHORITY WADI ARABA DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The Jordan Valley Authority announces the extension of the period for submission of engineering consultants offers for Wadi Araba Development project until 12:00 Saturday the 17th of April 1986.

Dr. Eng. Munther Haddadin President.



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### Cine Theatre Philadelphie

Tel: 634144 - 634149

HIGHWAYMAN'S SON (Colour)

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:15

### Cinema RAGHADAN

Tel: 622198

ADAM & EVE (Colour)

Performances: 12:00, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00

### Cinema OPERA

Abdoun, behind Aila offices

Tel: 675573

ANNA THAT CERTAIN ENCOUNTER

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30

## Paris talks fail to lift farm trade war threat

PARIS (R) — Talks between the United States and the European Community (EC) here failed to lift the threat of a bitter trade war in the wake of the entry of Spain and Portugal, U.S. and EC officials said Saturday.

"Our meeting has not allowed us to find a solution," EC Trade Commissioner Willy De Clercq said after talks with U.S. Farm Secretary Richard Lyng and U.S. Trade Representative Clayton Yuetter.

Washington now plans to go ahead next month with curbs on agricultural imports from the Community in retaliation for the introduction of EC levies on Spanish and Portuguese imports, Mr. Lyng said.

Washington says the levies will cost U.S. cereals and oilseed farmers an estimated one billion dollars a year in lost sales and has demanded compensation.

Mr. De Clercq and EC Farm Commissioner Frans Andriessen told reporters after the meeting

they had renewed an offer to discuss U.S. compensation claims through the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) but had rejected U.S. demands that the levies meanwhile be suspended.

They said that if Washington went ahead with retaliation the Community would respond with its own curbs on U.S. goods some time after the seven-nation Tokyo economic summit in two weeks' time.

EC foreign ministers will discuss the looming confrontation at their Luxembourg meeting on Monday, Mr. De Clercq said.

Mr. Lyng said he would meet Mr. Andriessen in Washington and Canada in the next few weeks to try to build a better relationship with the Community, "but it would be wrong to say I am extremely optimistic about an early solution."

Mr. De Clercq said no special negotiations were planned outside the proposed GATT talks.

## Bangladeshi teachers continue strike

DHAKA (R) — More than 10,000 striking teachers from non-government schools staged a mass sit-in outside Bangladesh's main government offices Saturday, blocking all roads and halting traffic for several hours.

They said they would continue to stage regular sit-ins because the government had ignored their strike, which passed its 27th day Saturday.

The strikers want higher pay and more benefits for about 150,000 teachers at nearly 10,000 non-government secondary schools and allege they are being discriminated against compared with teachers working in government schools.

Teachers leader, Mohammad Kamruddin told reporters that they were forced to intensify their movement.

## AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, April 12, '86 and ending Wednesday, April 16, 1986 (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of Company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
<b>Banking &amp; financial institutions</b>					
Petra Bank	38733	103555	2.600	2.640	23.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	1550	3573	2.310	2.300	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	4069	8907	2.190	2.190	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	2438	3702	1.510	1.520	1.000
Housing Bank	8336	13095	1.570	1.580	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	3750	8080	2.150	2.160	1.000
Industrial Development Bank	1000	1486	1.500	1.470	1.000
Cairo Amman Bank	217	6288	29.000	29.250	5.000
Bank of Jordan	367	7191	19.000	20.200	5.000
Arab Bank	6030	752381	147.000	162.000	10.000
Jordan National Bank	23870	59884	2.530	2.500	1.000
Jordan Finance House	21400	18354	0.860	0.850	1.000
Islamic Investment House	5350	4627	0.870	0.850	1.000
Jordan Investment & Finance Corporation	23500	16987	1.220	1.230	1.000
Finance & Credit Corporation	42550	16273	0.880	0.880	1.000
National Financial Investments	1093	1385	1.300	1.210	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	22454	15613	0.690	0.700	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqarco)	3560	2151	0.620	0.580	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	21866	22269	1.020	1.020	1.000

### Insurance

Jordan French Insurance	38943	102465	2.600	2.550	1.000
REFCO Insurance	200	100	1.010	1.000	1.000
Jerusalem Insurance	830	1209	1.450	1.470	1.000
Jordan Gulf Insurance	5325	4293	0.800	0.810	1.000
Philadelphia Insurance	1750	1408	0.810	0.810	4.000

### Services and industries

Woolen Industries	490	395	0.820	0.800	1.000
Management and Consultations	250	58	0.490	0.490	1.000
Jordan Electric Power	21486	32478	1.520	1.510	1.000
National Shipping Lines	1400	942	0.700	0.670	1.000
Jordan Dairy	11954	13961	1.170	1.170	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	8109	28181	3.440	3.450	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	39493	26348	0.690	0.680	1.000
Jordan Paper & Cardboard Factories	3593	9332	2.560	2.600	1.000
Jordan Phosphates Mines	595	1210	2.000	2.070	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intaj)	8830	17211	1.960	1.950	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergents	1218	5122	4.200	4.210	1.000
Alladin Industries	6350	4077	0.660	0.630	1.000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	97350	82521	0.840	0.860	1.000
Arab International Hotels	3490	1266	0.380	0.370	1.000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	1776	6633	3.850	3.700	1.000
Jordan Ceramics	4171	4091	0.980	0.980	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	6908	8978	1.310	1.300	1.000
Chemical Industries	2450	2450	0.990	1.000	1.000
Jordan Industries and Matches	16950	9942	0.610	0.590	1.000

Dar Al Dawa' for Development & Investment	2615	3870	1.470	1.480	1.000
National Steel Industries	10700	12683	1.200	1.180	1.000
Jordan Tanning	170	308	1.830	1.810	1.000
Jordan Leasing Equipment	10311	7318	0.690	0.700	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	5000	3721	0.820	0.740	1.000
General Mining	1800	3006	1.670	1.670	1.000
Petra for Projects & Leasing	4800	1080	0.760	0.770	1.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	6800	45110	6.620	6.640	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	7950	2147	0.270	0.270	1.000
National Industries	750	626	0.850	0.830	1.000
Jordan Rockwood Industries	500	265	0.550	0.530	1.000
Arab Paper Converting & Trading	3600	1110	0.310	0.300	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	200	1130	5.650	5.650	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	200	256	1.300	1.280	1.000
Live Stock and Poultry	750	390	0.550	0.590	1.000
Grand total	351213	649342			

## Japan joins U.S. in move to lower interest rates

TOKYO (R) — Japan Saturday joined the United States in reducing interest rates, marking the second time this year the two countries have moved in tandem on rate cuts.

The Bank of Japan said it would lower its discount rate — the rate it charges on loans to local banking institutions — to 3.5 per cent, from four per cent, effective from Monday.

The new rate equals the post-war low set in April 1979.

The cut, Japan's third this year, follows Friday's announcement by the U.S. Federal Reserve of a half-point reduction in its discount rate.

Finance Minister Noboru Takeshita told a political rally in western Japan that the rate cuts were in line with an agreement he reached on coordinated action with U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker last week in Washington.

Analysts said the Bank of Japan acted quickly to follow the U.S. move in order to prevent a further rise of the yen, which has surged 25 per cent against the dollar since September. High interest rates tend to push up a currency by making it more lucrative to hold.

The yen's rapid rise has hit Japan's exporters hard by forcing

them to raise prices and lose sales in the U.S. market.

Smaller firms have complained they are on the verge of collapse and have stepped up pressure on the government to help them.

Analysts said the Federal Reserve wanted Japan to act because it feared that a further dollar drop would push up inflation in the United States by forcing up prices of imported goods.

Bank of Japan Governor Satoshi Sumita expressed the hope that the Japanese rate cut would help stabilize foreign exchange rates and increase Japanese demand for goods, thus cutting the country's huge trade surplus.

He noted that since the bank last reduced its rate in early March, inflation has stabilised further, but economic growth has continued to moderate.

Japan and the United States cut rates in tandem on March 7, after West Germany acted first. This time, the move to lower rates has been led by France, which lowered its key rate earlier this week.

## Soviets improve growth in first quarter of 1986

MOSCOW (AP) — Partial figures published Saturday for the first quarter of 1986 showed the economy apparently responding to Mikhail Gorbachev's calls for improved growth and efficiency, but still plagued by lagging oil production and sluggishness in some sectors.

The Communist Party daily Pravda said the economy grew 6.7 per cent in the first quarter compared with the first three months of last year and a yearly target for 1986 of 4.3 per cent.

Labour productivity was also strongly up, 6.3 per cent over January through March last year and a target of 4.1 per cent growth for this year.

The growth figures for the first quarter were likely enhanced, however, by the poor showing for the first three months of 1985, when a severe winter and the political inertia of the last weeks of Konstantin Chernenko's Kremlin tenure precipitated what officials later termed an economic disaster.

Figures for labour productivity, manufacturing output and other indicators were not even released in the partial first quarter report for last year.

Pravda said industrial production was 2 per cent above plan levels for the first quarter this year, with all republics and industries meeting plan targets except the oil industry.

Last year, by comparison, the electrical power industry, the railroads and the coal, oil, ferrous metal and chemical industries were said to have performed

below par in the first quarter.

The Soviet Union is the world's largest oil producer. But Soviet oil production has fallen in the past two years, dipping last year below the 600-million-ton mark to 595 million tons.

Soviet media, which have published numerous articles in the past three months criticising the oil industry, have said the situation is improving but production still lags behind planned levels.

The Pravda report on a Friday session of the council of ministers, the Soviet equivalent of a government cabinet, listed machine building, metallurgy and gas as industries that performed strongly in the first quarter.

Machine building has been singled out for heavy investment in the next five years, when Mr. Gorbachev and his Kremlin team hope to modernise Soviet industry rapidly enough to meet ambitious goals of doubling industrial output by 2000.

In agriculture, Pravda said procurement of poultry and cattle increased 7.6 per cent and that of milk and eggs 6 per cent in the first quarter of this year.

No other figures were given for the farm sector.

The railroads, much criticised in the past three years for delays and failure to shift cargo, overfulfilled their plan in the first quarter entirely due to increased labour productivity, Pravda said. Better labour productivity accounted for 94 per cent of the growth in industrial production.

## YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The early part of the day finds some tensions in effect that can cause frustration, so keep cheerful, and later you will find ways to gain what you want.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Study your obligations and then you will know how best to handle them. Try to cheer up your mate.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Don't try to change an associate's ideas in the morning. An outside matter can be annoying.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You can't understand how to get others to cooperate with you in the morning, but later the door to opportunity is opened.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You are eager for recreation, but cannot have it until later in the day. Drive with care.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You have to be more objective if you are to solve the problems at home. Entertain tonight at home.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Study various philosophies that may enrich your life and make the future much brighter for you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Don't feel sorry for yourself this morning since you are better off than you realize. Come to some decisions about finances.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) The morning does not seem to go right for you, and you want to force some situation, but this is not a good idea.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) In the morning you want to worry about some problem you have, but tonight you will see how best to solve it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You may have delays in gaining your aims this morning, but by evening all works out fine.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Use care in the outside world and avoid arguments and accidents. You will accomplish more than you thought possible.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Gather the data you need today, and don't go off on any new tangents. Stick with those you can trust.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be happy to study early in life and upon reaching maturity will become very dynamic and can get a fine start in a career. It may seem that your progeny is rather slow at learning but is only being thorough and actually will retain more knowledge than most.

## THE Daily Crossword by Victor Jambor, Jr.

ACROSS

- 1 Roundest lump
- 5 Song of joy
- 10 Alphabet run
- 14 Loren rule
- 15 NY city
- 16 Nick's wife
- 17 Together
- 18 Fortification
- 19 Short cotton
- 20 & 22A Captain
- 21 Gallant
- 22 One 25A
- 24 Head elder
- 26 Regional
- 27 Role for 20A
- 30 Trading place
- 31 Vapour
- 34 Jet
- 35 Dog or fox
- 37 Lustrous
- 38 Shed
- 40 Ma Purcell
- 42 Eng. river
- 43 The last
- 45 1000 grams
- 47 Furbish
- 48 Aerobic
- 49 Amerind
- 50 Completed
- 52 Alasagordo
- 53 Coastal bird
- 54 Final
- 56 Role for 20A
- 57 Buck
- 58 (role for 20A)
- 59 Enger
- 60 Jug, seagull
- 62 Asian deer
- 63 FDR's dog
- 64 126 president
- 65 Roof overhang
- 66 Stage the
- 67 Inquire for
- 68 Goshawk

DOWN

- 1 Clothing
- 2 Stead
- 3 Western routine
- 4 Chiselhead
- 5 Berries
- 6 Decayed
- 7 Clear
- 8 Edible tuber
- 9 Bengal
- 10 Record of a single event
- 11 Shipwreck
- 12 Manger
- 13 Valley
- 14 A Gabor
- 15 Shaded
- 16 Lethal
- 17 Assessment
- 18 amount
- 19 Small drum
- 20 Tex. airline
- 21 Peep show
- 22 Beaten
- 23 Battery
- 24 Church council
- 25 Garden tools
- 26 Tuxedo
- 27 Crows' clout
- 28 Car
- 29 Morisea
- 30 couplings
- 31 No de
- 32 Alt. antelope
- 33 Hook on a pole
- 34 Peave
- 35 QED word
- 36 Talk wildly
- 37 Large number
- 38 Cravat
- 39 Tomahawk
- 40 Korean soldier

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

MONS	PEPE	GALE
RIE	ORIO	ADRIA
FOUR	THIRTY	ETIO
ROSS	DOONA	
MARIA	PIRE	MORE
ARIEL	ON	SPRINT
RIE	ALBIR	PERAL
THIRTY	ANDER	
ADAM	MAIRA	BIAT
ARE	MOND	THIRTY
PIRE	RIE	IROR
RIE	ALBIR	PERAL
THIRTY	ANDER	

## Peanuts



## Mutt 'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp



## THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



## JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LOBOD

CILY

RANCAL

AHVEBE

WHAT THE FINANCIALLY EMBARRASSED GRAVE DIGGER USUALLY WAS.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GLADE PLUME DUPLEX ADAGIO

Answer: What the middle-aged Romeo acted like he was — "MUDDLE-AGED"



## U.S. seeks clarification of Gorbachev arms proposal

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States said it would welcome clarification of proposals on cutting conventional weapons made by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in East Berlin.

Mr. Gorbachev said he was proposing a significant reduction of all components of NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) and Warsaw Pact land and tactical air forces in all Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals.

The Ural Mountains run through the Soviet Union about 1,000 miles (1,600 kilometres) east of Moscow.

Mr. Gorbachev said the proposal was designed to break the deadlock in the Vienna negotiations on East-West troop reductions which have until now concerned only Central Europe.

The State Department said the United States would study Mr. Gorbachev's statement and "would welcome any clarification." It said it was not clear whether he was planning a new set of talks or an expansion of those already underway.

The State Department said Western proposals at Vienna provided an excellent basis for progress and said Moscow had responded with "rehabilitated, old, unacceptable positions."

The West has called for cuts in

U.S. and Soviet ground troops and limits on air and ground forces on both sides.

First Western reaction was cautious. West Germany welcomed the proposal but called for more details, while U.S. defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger said the Warsaw Pact must make bigger cuts than NATO because of its present superior numbers.

The Soviet leader called for a "significant reduction" in European land and tactical air forces and in U.S. and Canadian troops deployed in Europe. The units involved would be disbanded and their weapons destroyed or stored.

The geographical zone of the reductions must obviously be the territory of all Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals," Mr. Gorbachev said.

He made clear his plan was to meet NATO arguments that large-scale cuts in nuclear forces, as proposed by Moscow, would leave Western Europe open to conventional attack.

Mr. Gorbachev pledged that the Soviet Union would never attack

Western Europe unless the Warsaw Pact was first attacked by NATO. He accused a right-wing press of spreading false ideas that "an armada of Soviet tanks" was threatening the West.

Western diplomats said Mr. Gorbachev's ideas were vague and they queried whether he wanted to bring so far uninvolved nations into the Vienna talks, currently limited to troops in seven countries in Central Europe.

East European sources suggested that a parallel proposal by Mr. Gorbachev, to reduce tactical nuclear weapons along with conventional arms, could be aimed at the British and French nuclear deterrents. London and Paris consider their nuclear forces to be strategic.

Referring to this week's U.S. air raid on Libya, Mr. Gorbachev attacked the "bankruptcy" of Washington's Middle East policy.

He said U.S.-Soviet ties were bound to suffer but made no reference to plans for a new summit this year between himself and U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

Plans for East German Communist leader Erich Honecker to visit Bonn appeared not to have been helped by references by both Mr. Gorbachev and Polish delegate Jozef Cieliecki Friday to West German "revanchism."

## Protestants continue violence in Belfast

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) — Protestant rioters, some of them masked, attacked police land rovers and the homes of police officers with gasoline bombs and rocks in Belfast early Saturday and set dozens of hijacked cars and a delicatessen shop on fire.

The pre-dawn attacks represented the second straight night of Protestant rioting in the city. Sgt. Trevor Currie at Belfast Police Headquarters said police fired two plastic bullets at one group of rioters and arrested a total of 26 people during the night.

The trouble began Friday in the Sandy Row area, a Protestant stronghold in south Belfast, when police banned a parade, fearing militants would turn it into a violent confrontation with police.

Currie said about 70 rioters attacked officers in the area with gasoline bombs and bricks after the parade was banned. Another mob seized a bus but police moved in swiftly before it could be burned.

An ambulance on its way to deal with an emergency was stoned and the crew of another ambulance was threatened with violence.

## Spy satellite lost in Titan blast

VANDENBERG AIR BASE, California (R) — The United States appears to have lost a key spy satellite in the explosion of a Titan missile seconds after launch from a test site in California, scientists said.

A military spokesman said 58 people at the base 160 kilometres north of Los Angeles were treated for skin and eye irritation from exposure to toxic rocket gas released by the explosion Friday.

He said three of the injured were kept in hospital overnight for observation. The blast damaged the launch pad and fiery debris touched off a fire in foliage around the site that burned for hours.

The accident was another blow to the U.S. military's space delivery programme, already curtailed by the suspension of shuttle flights after the Jan. 28 Challenger disaster.

Military officials would say only that the Titan was carrying a secret military payload when it exploded 90 metres above the base.

But independent scientists who

closely follow the space programme said they believed the missile was to have launched a \$800-million KH-11 photo reconnaissance satellite, used to monitor Soviet missile and other activities.

This would mean only one KH-11 satellite was operating and would seriously hamper the U.S. monitoring programme, the scientists said.

The explosion of the Titan 34-D rocket, the most advanced of the series, was the third setback in eight months for the U.S. military satellite programme.

The military has relied on missile to launch its space payloads since the Challenger explosion, which killed the crew of seven.

Another Titan blew up last August soon after launch and its KH-11 satellite was destroyed, air force officials said.

The toxic cloud Friday dispersed after drifting towards the Pacific. Schoolchildren in the nearby town of Lompoc were told to stay in their classrooms.

Road and rail traffic was halted to keep people away from the cloud and any falling debris, and Pacific beaches in the area were closed for the afternoon.

Air force officials who monitored the cloud said it was never a danger to Lompoc, a town of 28,000 people, or other communities.

The Titan missile, which is being replaced by the solid fuel MX missile as a defence weapon, can carry nuclear warheads 750 times as powerful as the atom bomb dropped on Hiroshima. Air force officials said the missile which exploded Friday was not armed.

Another Titan missile exploded in a silo at Damascus, Arkansas, on Sept. 19, 1980, and sprayed toxic fumes over the area. Residents complained of headaches, shortness of breath and nausea.

Some 1,500 missiles have been launched from Vandenberg and a space shuttle launch pad is being built on the base for when the programme resumes.

## Students, police clash in South Korea

TAEJEON, South Korea (R) — Thousands of demonstrators took to the streets of Taejeon Saturday, calling for the overthrow of President Chun Doo Hwan and the restoration of full democracy.

Police looked on from a discreet distance, witnesses said, but did not intervene until a small body of

students began pelting them with rocks and broken glass.

The witnesses said at least five policemen were hurt and three cars damaged. About 20 students were detained.

The march through central Taejeon had paralysed traffic in the city centre.

Demonstrators chanted "restore democracy" and "bring down the military dictatorship of Chun Doo Hwan".

Earlier the main opposition New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP), staged a rally at a Taejeon Sports Stadium.

## Two black children die in South African violence

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Two black children and three men died in a night of unrest in protest-town South Africa and an anti-apartheid clergyman warned Saturday that blacks expect the nation's crisis to deepen.

Police said a baby was burned to death when arsonists set fire to a black councillor's house at Middeburg in the Cape Province. The councillor killed two attackers with his pistol.

The body of another black man, believed also to be a councillor, was later found nearby. Councillors and black policemen are favourite targets of radical blacks, who say they collaborate with the white-minority government in Pretoria.

A 12-year-old black boy died when a blast ripped through a holiday hotel near Port Edward in Transkei tribal homeland, 150 kilometres south of the Indian Ocean port of Durban, a hospital spokesman said.

Two white men were seriously hurt in the explosion, which bomb squad officers were still investigating Saturday. Three people were hurt in a bomb blast in Transkei on Thursday.

The blasts came amid preparations for the funeral Sunday of exiled African National Congress member King Sabata Dalindyebo, nephew of jailed black nationalist Nelson Mandela.

Eyewitnesses said Transkei police mounted a major operation Saturday to seal off the area around the cemetery where black activist Winnie Mandela was due to be one of the leading mourners. Rebel Afrikaner clergyman Beyers Naude said Saturday that a seminar on the role of the church

during the current crisis showed blacks expected the situation to worsen.

Rev. Naude, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) which hosted the talks, told reporters: "We were struck by the seriousness of the crisis at every level."

"The perspective brought here by these (black) representatives was of increasing crisis in South Africa. The primary goal is... political liberation and nothing else."

The SACC, which groups 15 churches with a total membership of some 12 million, called the conference to hammer out a role for the church in the troubled country's future. Delegates from black townships and organisations spoke at the meeting.

Some 1,470 people have died in 26 months of unabated unrest in South Africa, blamed on growing anger among blacks with their inferior lot under apartheid racial segregation.

South Africa has effectively shelved its Pass Laws, bitterly resented cornerstones of apartheid which curb the movement of black people, prompting a cautious welcome from opposition leaders.

President P.W. Botha told parliament Friday that blacks being held for Pass Law breaches would be freed from next week no one would be arrested under the laws, as more than 20 million blacks have been this century.

Nobel Peace Prize laureate Desmond Tutu, elected this week as head of the Anglican Church in southern Africa, said he welcomed the move but added: "I hope there is not a sting in the tail."

## U.S. plans \$5,823m in economic, military aid to Mideast

WASHINGTON (USIA) — The Reagan administration has requested \$5,823 million in economic and military aid for the Middle East and North Africa for fiscal year 1987.

At a hearing before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations Richard Murphy, the State Department's assistant secretary for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, said much of the assistance is proposed for Israel because "U.S. commitment to Israel's security and economic requirements is rock solid."

The breakdown for the aid request is as follows:

— \$3,295 million in foreign military sales credit (FMS) including \$3,100 million for Israel and Egypt (\$1,800 million);

— \$105 million in grant military assistance programmes (MAP);

— \$10.4 million in international military education and training (IMET);

— \$2,015 million in economic support funds (ESF) for Israel and Egypt (\$1,200 million);

— \$104 million in economic support funds for six other Middle East countries and the West Bank and Gaza territories;

— \$48.3 million in development assistance (DA);

— \$254.9 million in PL 480 food aid.

Charles W. Greenleaf, Jr., assistant administrator, Bureau for Asia and Near East, Agency for International Development, said the \$1,200 million in ESF to Israel would be a cash transfer for direct support of Israel's civilian economy so as to continue maintaining a modest rate of economic growth and effective management of Israel's balance of payments problem.

Similarly, the \$815 million ESF requested for Egypt will go to support economic policy reforms initiated by the government, Greenleaf said.

Lt.-Gen. Philip C. Gast, USAF, director, Defence Security Assistance Agency, outlined U.S. strategic objectives in the area. They are:

— To enhance the security and viability of Israel and other friendly regional states;

— To develop and maintain free flow of trade (especially oil);

— To thwart Soviet inroads to the region;

— To maintain stability — which includes U.S. efforts to prevent or contain war.

Following are major excerpts of the statement by Mr. Murphy: "I welcome this opportunity to testify in support of the administration's proposals for fiscal year 1987 economic and security assistance for the Middle East and North Africa."

This year, more than any year since I have served as assistant secretary, the Congress and administration feel the budget squeeze. Like you, we in the Near East and South Asia bureau understand that when we add money to one account, it must come out of another. Cuts are painful. Reductions have costs, whether they come from agriculture, education, health or the foreign assistance budget. I am not here today to plead that security assistance must be regarded as a higher priority than farmers or the elderly — or to push for large increases during this tough period. Instead, I would like to review the benefits we as a nation do receive from security assistance.

The primary goal of our foreign

assistance programme is the support of friendly states with common interests in promoting economic and political stability. Compared to international trade and other financial flows, our programmes are not large. But they provide critical reinforcement to policies and institutions that we are committed to support in principle as a global power exerting influence to protect legitimate interests, and not merely reacting to events. The reciprocal benefit to us and our friends is the basis of our foreign assistance programmes.

The request for the Middle East and North Africa is \$5,823 million or 36 per cent of the administration's global request for fiscal year 1987.

Much of our assistance is proposed for Israel. Our commitment to Israel's security and economic requirements is rock solid.

We support the security needs of Egypt, Israel, and Jordan who have taken risks for peace and for stability in that strategic region.

We are protecting the free world's access to oil resources in the strategic Gulf region in cooperation with friendly Arab states in the Gulf. Our assistance to Oman contributes to this effort.

Our programmes parallel our interest in maintaining military access rights in Morocco and the security of long-time friends in North Africa — Morocco and Tunisia.

The recent instability in South Yemen, exacerbated by Soviet interference, makes our assistance to the Yemen Arab Republic (North Yemen) particularly significant at this time.

### Middle East Peace

The security of Israel remains the cornerstone of our Middle East policy. Our assistance assures Israel's defensive capabilities — its qualitative edge in the region.

In addition, efforts to nurture the spirit of accommodation between Israel and its Arab neighbours will succeed more readily if Arab states feel confident they can provide for their own defence vis-a-vis increased instability caused by the Iran-Iraq war, Libyan aggression, and Soviet expansion.

Our friends need help as they work to manage economic and social issues. Defensive capabilities and economic development are key to stability and improved relations among our friends in the Middle East.

We are seeking a total of \$5,300 million in military and economic assistance for Israel and Egypt. Meeting their legitimate defensive requirements is critically important to maintaining our security, role throughout the region and to preserving our role as mediator in the search for peace.

Since the president's Middle East peace initiative of Sept. 1, 1982, foreign assistance, in concert with an active diplomacy, has played an essential role in sustaining the peace process. A resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict requires both a commitment to the security and economic well-being of Israel as well as continued close ties with those Arab states which have traditionally been friendly to the United States. Resolution of these problems, aspects of which are deep seated and complex, will never be easy. Notwithstanding the risks and the costs, this administration will continue to seek opportunities through all of our friends in the region to move forward with a policy that is in the

national interest of the United States and its partners.

### Israel

Our assistance programmes in Israel will provide generous support of Israel's military preparedness and economic stability. The \$1,800 million FMS request for fiscal year 1987 will enable Israel to finance priority security requirements. This includes high performance aircraft, helicopters, artillery missiles and ammunition. Israel's military preparedness is such that it can defend itself against any possible combination of adversaries in the region. The all grant terms of the FMS programme for Israel lessens the economic impact of defence expenditures by facilitating Israel's efforts to reduce its balance of payments deficit, control its foreign debt, and correct economic imbalances.

Our request for \$1,200 million in ESF directly addresses Israel's economic problems through cash transfers to meet short term balance of payments requirements, maintain budgeted foreign exchange expenditures, and import the goods and services it needs without massive borrowing at market rates. The ESF programme makes us partners with Israel in encouraging economic reform to assure long-term growth of the Israeli economy. We have established a dialogue with the Israeli government through the Joint Economic Development Group (JEDG) that meets regularly so that together we can assess how to provide maximum support for Israel's stabilisation and growth agenda.

Prime Minister Peres announced on July 1 a comprehensive set of measures to deal with the twin problems of inflation and balance of payments deficits. The basic elements include sharp cuts in government spending on subsidies on consumer goods and services, reductions in real wages, a 19 per cent devaluation of the sheqel, and a price freeze. The government is making a concerted effort to implement this programme and considerable progress has been made. The budget deficit is down and there has been a sharp decline in inflation.

The programme's impact on the balance of payments has also been impressive. Israel's foreign debt, also stabilised. Moreover, the Israeli programme has achieved these objectives without a sharp escalation in unemployment, which appears to have peaked during the third quarter of 1985 at 7.8 per cent and has since dropped to 6.8 per cent or lower.

Notwithstanding the considerable progress made so far, the stabilisation programme remains fragile. The government will have to continue to maintain control over spending and work out a new agreement with Labour (Histadrut) on income policy while resisting political pressures to reflate. The political pressure for pump priming has increased in view of the recent successes of the stabilisation programme and the impact of the recession on the financial viability of key firms and sectors. Growth is now a top priority of the Peres government — to provide what the prime minister called a "ray of hope" for the Israeli public in a more prosperous future.

### Egypt

A strong and stable Egypt is crucial to virtually all of our interests in the Middle East and

North Africa. In addition to being a Camp David partner, Egypt is a counterweight to Libyan meddling in the Sudan, Chad and Tunisia. Our security assistance to Egypt promotes readiness and military self-sufficiency necessary for defence against Soviet-armed radical states in the region.

The request for \$1,300 million in foreign FMS credits for fiscal year 1987 is part of an ongoing effort to modernise the Egyptian military and replace obsolete Soviet equipment. Our FMS programme addresses the regional balance of forces and helps out friends counter the arms build-up in Soviet supplied states. For fiscal year 1987, in addition to progress payments for previous purchases of U.S. equipment, we propose upgrades for Egypt's air defence systems and equipment maintenance.

Our security interests go hand-in-hand with Egypt's economic health and stability. Economic support funds of \$815 million will finance economic development projects as well as provide valuable balance of payments support.

Although Egypt's economic growth rate was 4 to 5 per cent last year, the economy is beset by severe structural problems. The overall balance of payments moved into deficit in 1985, signalling the need for increased borrowing. In recent months, events largely beyond Egypt's control have compounded these problems, and no improvement is foreseen in the near term. Egypt's petroleum revenues are down sharply with the precipitous fall in oil prices, and tourism has been crippled by terrorist incidents and the February disturbances. Remittances from overseas workers — another key source of foreign exchange — have fallen with the slowdown in the Gulf economies.

Our economic assistance is part of a dialogue that we have established with Egypt to support its economic reform programme. One target for reform is a lower budget deficit. However, Egypt's deficit is about 20 per cent of GDP, and politically sensitive food subsidies account for almost one-third of the deficit.

Over the past year, Egypt has taken some important steps to reform its economy:

— Food subsidies have been reduced: For example, wheat prices now approach United States levels;

— Energy subsidies have been cut by such measures as a 37 per cent increase in electricity rates and a 25 per cent increase in gasoline prices;

— Foreign currency expenditures of the government have been reduced.

More recently, despite the February disturbances, President Mubarak affirmed his government's commitment to accelerate economic reform.

New measures — including tax increases, customs reform, and reduction of government operating expenses — are being implemented. These initiatives represent a solid beginning to the comprehensive reform programme that is necessary to address Egypt's immediate problems and achieve stable, long-term economic growth.

### Jordan

Jordan is important to us as a moderate, pro-Western state that plays a key role in the search for a negotiated settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict. King Hus-

sein has publicly recognised Israel's right to exist and has sought scrupulously to maintain the security of Jordan's border with Israel. By reestablishing full diplomatic relations with Egypt in November, 1984 — the first Arab state to do so — and by trying to find credible Palestinians to seek a negotiated peace with Israel, Jordan has repeatedly demonstrated its willingness to undertake courageous initiatives toward a negotiated resolution. Jordan's ability to sustain its record as an active participant in the peace process is contingent on our willingness to assist in meeting its legitimate defence needs. A chorus of rejectionist voices in the region now advise Jordan to cease its reliance on U.S. assistance and abandon its role in the peace process.

Most assuredly, King Hussein has not abandoned his commitment to peace. For our part, we intend to continue our assistance to countries such as Jordan, where our security and economic assistance provides both a tangible as well as psychological buffer against rejectionism. We must prevent Jordan from being distracted while it confronts the difficult political choices ahead. The Jordanian government is grateful for the \$250 million economic supplemental package which Congress passed for Jordan last summer to assist in preserving Jordan's economic stability.

Foreign worker remittances from the Gulf states and exports to the Gulf are declining with the soft market in oil; Arab assistance is also likely to decline. The Iran-Iraq war contributes to the continued economic slowdown and unemployment in Jordan that began in 1981. Soviet arms transfers to neighbouring Syria represent a direct potential threat to Jordan.

Despite these difficulties, Jordan continues to pursue responsible regional policies. In a September, 1985 address to the United Nations General Assembly, King Hussein reaffirmed Jordan's commitment to a negotiated peace with Israel — a commitment that Jordan and its leaders have affirmed yet again more recently with the King's February, 1986 speech to the Jordanian people.

Jordan has had a military supply relationship with the United States for thirty years. The proposed military assistance programme for fiscal year 1987 consists of \$115 million in FMS credits and \$2 million for IMET. To provide a degree of relief for Jordan's balance of payments problems, our FMS programme will include \$65 million in concessional FMS credits and \$50 million in treasury rate FMS. The proposed military assistance will sustain Jordan's ability to purchase spare parts and follow-on support for U.S. equipment already in Jordan's inventory. The FMS programme will support Jordan's defence needs to the fullest extent possible. The military training programmes under IMET will provide Jordanian officers with a U.S. orientation and enhance Jordanian understanding of U.S. goals and operations in the Middle East.

Jordan is poor in natural resources; the lack of water limits the amount of arable land. The fiscal year 1987 ESF request for \$18 million will fund highlands agriculture projects and water resources development in addition to ongoing projects in the areas of water, sewerage services, agricultural productivity, health and technical training.



## Princess appointed ambassador to U.S.

KAMPALA (R) — Uganda is sending a princess to be its ambassador in Washington. President Yoweri Museveni has appointed Princess Elizabeth Bagaya of Toro, who was foreign minister under former dictator Idi Amin, a Foreign Ministry spokesman has said. The new government named 10 other ambassadors, including Freda Bick, daughter of Yasin Luile, who was president briefly after Amin was overthrown in 1979. She goes to Paris. The new ambassador to Belgium and the European Community is also a woman, Anna Amaluk. The others are: Joseph Tommaso (Canada), Daudi Talwaku (Egypt), Ernest Rusita (Britain), Perez Kamukama (West Germany), John Dick Obina (Sudan), Obin Gama (Japan), M.B.W. Kanyonyo (Ethiopia) and the Organisation of African Unity) and T.M. Mushanga (Zambia).

## Student kills himself on campus TV show

AMHERST, Massachusetts (R) — A college campus television programme described as "disturbing and in bad taste" outdid itself this week when a high school student killed himself as the cameras rolled. Andrew Hermann, 17, a frequent visitor to the Hampshire College campus who had recently been accepted to attend the school, appeared on the programme Wednesday night to announce he was going to drink cyanide-laced Kool-Aid. He then did just that, and to the horror of those watching the closed-circuit show he collapsed and died. Philip Jackson, who produced the show, said suicide was a running joke with Hermann, who often spoke of poisoning himself. But Marion Vanzilen, a Hampshire student who was a house-mate of Hermann and his brother Stephen, a senior at the college, said "none of his friends suspected anything. He just read a long speech on camera, mostly attacking the college administration and said, 'now I'm going to drink cyanide-spiked Kool-Aid,' and he did. We all thought he was faking when he collapsed. It looked completely planned. I guess he was asking for help."

## 'Mail order brides' face uncertain future

CANBERRA (R) — About 1,600 "mail order brides" came to Australia from the Philippines last year and at least 30 per cent of the marriages were doomed to failure, according to a senior Immigration Department official. The brides were so desperate that they were prepared to marry Australians they had never met or barely knew, said Ian Simington, first assistant secretary of the Migration Division. Simington, who was giving evidence before the Foreign Affairs and Defence Subcommittee on the Philippines, said past records showed that a large number of "mail order marriages are bound not to work." Most of the brides were introduced through marriage agencies or friends and relatives in Australia, he added. Poverty, lack of job opportunities and poor wages in the Philippines were the main reasons for them venturing into marriages here. Simington said, adding that some of the brides found themselves forced into prostitution.

## 'Silly Isles ends war with Dutch

HUGH TOWN, Silly Isles (R) — A European war ended after 335 years. Belatedly, Jonkheer Rein Huydecooper, Dutch ambassador to Britain, presented the civic leader of the Silly Isles with a peace treaty terminating their hostilities. The Dutch and the Silly Islanders — all 1,450 of them — have officially been enemies since 1651 when The Netherlands declared war in a tiff over piracy. The Silly Isles, which belong to Britain, are a chain of tiny islands — five inhabited, 30 others not — a few kilometres off the coast of Cornwall, south west England. Aside from its duration, the Silly-Dutch war was noted for the fact that not a shot was ever fired, nor a sword unsheathed, in anger. Moves to end the conflict were pressed by Roy Duncan, 36-year-old chairman of the islands council. "Dutch holidaymakers are amazed to learn they are at war with us," he said. Ambassador Huydecooper declared: "The Islanders can at last rest easy in their beds." He apologised for the Dutch failure to notify the Islanders that the war was over. He blamed the post office, for not having been invented at the time.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
AND OMER SHAPIRO  
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### ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠ 5 ♥ AKQJ2 ♦ AQJ2 ♣ A74  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♥ Double Pass 1 ♠  
What action do you take?  
A. — Neither a heart rebid nor two diamonds would express the power and distribution of your hand. Your only choice is a double. Since partner has not yet bid, and since this is your first opportunity to make that bid, the double is for takeout.
- Q.2 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠ 982 ♥ AKJ104 ♦ Q3 ♣ A63  
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one no trump. What action do you take?  
A. — You have splendid defense against a no trump contract and, since you will be on lead, there is no need to take any chance to steer partner in the right direction. An overall of two hearts simply begs for trouble because you have no margin of safety. Pass.
- Q.3 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠ KQ5 ♥ 876 ♦ Q7632 ♣ KQ  
Partner opens the bidding with two diamonds. What do you bid now?  
A. — The question is not whether you can make a plan, but whether you have a grand slam. To allow for orderly investigation, your first priority is to set the trump suit. Bid three diamonds. That will permit the rest of the auction to flow smoothly.
- Q.4 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠ 763 ♥ KJ5 ♦ Q542 ♣ KQJ  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ 2 ♦ Double Pass  
2 ♠  
What do you bid now?  
A. — This is the time to throw your point-count book out of the window. We have only one remark on the power of a double fit. This hand is a classic example. Bid four hearts. Anything less is asking partner to do what you should have done yourself.